

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER - LPA

Creator: Mary Jane Carlino

LPS1204196175-2

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER 1961 – 1975 VOL. 2

### San Francisco Bay Area Chapter News Clips

1961 – 1975 Vol. 2

Creator: Mary Jane Carlino



Bob "Gilligan's Island" Denver says he's found a new leading lady in love. She's petite comedienne Patty Maloney — who's only 3-feet-11.

"I really love her. She's the sweetest woman I've ever met. When I first met her, I couldn't get over how sweet she was — and now she just keeps getting sweeter," rejoiced Bob, who's 5-feet-11.

A radiant Patty gushed: "I just love Bob — because he's so considerate. He has every quality I've ever looked for in a man.

"It never once made a difference that I'm so small. It might with others. But never with Bob," Patty smiled.

"I don't really consider myself a midget, just a very small person. I've been 3-feet-11 since I was 13 years old. I stopped growing at that age. But my tiny size certainly hasn't stopped me from having a wonderful, happy life."

The romance grew after Bob planted a gossip column item about him and Patty last June as a gag. Only a few weeks later, love blossomed. Explained Bob:

"I had only known Patty for about two weeks. We met while we were taping a new CBS children's series — 'Far Out Space Nuts.'

"We went out to lunch together a few times. But it was no serious romance at the time. I thought it would be kind of fun if I had a friend put a romance item about us in the trade papers — just to see what kind of reaction it would get from people."

Her eyes sparkling, Patty smiled, "Bob asked my OK to place the story. I told him I didn't object. And I remember thinking to myself, 'Wouldn't it be nice if it were true.'"

The item got a big response from their friends, who called up to ask if it were true.

"We both enjoyed a good laugh," said Bob. "And we began to feel that we really had a lot in common. Finally, about two weeks after the item appeared, I asked her out for a date."

Patty recalled: "Just the way he looked at me that night made me melt. And when he took me home, he said something at the door I'll never forget. He told me it was nice to meet a real lady. And then he kissed me good night."

A few days later, Patty went to Las Vegas where she performed with Totie Fields at the Sahara Hotel. Bob remark-

## 'Gilligan's Island' Star Bob Denver in Love With 3-Foot 11-Inch Comedienne



**ROMANCE** started as a gossip column gag — now Bob Denver and Patty Maloney admit that love has blossomed.

ed, "It was then that I realized how serious we had become. When she left town, I missed her a lot. I didn't want to be without her."

Is marriage in the happy couple's future?

"We haven't talked about it

yet," said Patty, 39, who was married once before.

Bob, 40, who has been married 3 times, said plans aren't firm, but added with a chuckle:

"When we do get married, Patty's going to be pretty easy to carry over the threshold."

— ERIC SHUMAN



**DR. PATRICIA DUNKLEE MEASURES SERGIO**  
Boy, 14, weighs 33 pounds, 3 feet tall — (AP)

## Stunted Boy, 14, Medical Mystery

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — American doctors are examining a 14-year-old Mexican boy with the bone structure of a 4-year-old.

The boy, identified only as Sergio, walked into the free hospital in Tijuana, wearing baby jogging shoes and size three clothing. He is 37 inches tall and weighs 33 pounds.

It appears the youngster stopped growing at the age of

5 or 6, doctors said.

"There is a very respectable chance that Sergio may be partially curable," said Dr. David Chadwick, medical director at Children's Hospital in San Diego.

"If it is due to pituitary deficiency, there is a possibility we can give him shots — very costly shots — to help him grow."

Sergio told doctors that he went to them voluntarily because his father was starting to wonder why he didn't grow.

In school, "his grades are wonderful," said Sergio's father. Sergio said he has a good time at school and his size is of little importance there.

Dr. Patricia Dunklee of the Tijuana hospital, Casa de Todos, said exhaustive tests are being given the boy.

The case is attracting the interest of physicians throughout the southwestern border area, she said.



**MR. & MRS. NORMAND OLETTE**



**Dee Dee Sass**  
**MEET THE SECRETARY**

Four feet of green-eyed, auburn-haired vivacity could well describe LPA's national secretary. Kathleen Sass, who prefers to be called Dee Dee, says that LPA is the "Greatest thing that could ever happen to little people." The



**MRS. CHARLES BEDOW**



**MRS. CLARENCE B. HUGHES**



PROFILE

# Wrestling's Wee World

By PAUL McCARTHY

At 4 feet, 2 inches and 85 pounds, she spends most of her life looking up at people and places.

But once in the ring as a midget woman wrestler, Darling Dagmar is ready for an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation with no holds barred.

"I can be the good 'guy,' the bad guy and every once in a while I can even be ugly," says the Winston, N. C., veteran of 11 years on professional wrestling's touring circuit.

"It all depends on who I'm wrestling and how I'm doing. If I think they're gonna beat me, or somebody's got me cornered, I'll come out fighting," says Dagmar with a glint of aggression in her blue eyes.

Though one of a legion of wrestling's "little people," she says her lack of size isn't indicative of her strength.

"I can lift 200 pounds on my shoulders," Dagmar says with self-assurance and just a hint of a challenge in case a listener wanted to take a test spin.

Living out of a suitcase and being constantly on the go to matches in Japan, Canada and criss-crossing the U. S. surprisingly hasn't taken its toll.

"I love traveling," she claims, "and I've always been interested in history, so the two go together just fine for me."

Not that grappling has all been fun and games, mind you.

"I've gotten a lot of bruised and broken ribs in my time. I've had both ankles broken at some time or another, and once I was thrown out of the ring and landed against a chair. It took 18 stitches in my head to make me right," says Dagmar.

It'll be more of the same Saturday night when Dagmar and her tag-team partner, fellow North Carolinian Princess Little Dove, pair off at Oakland Auditorium in a co-feature against Diamond Lil and Marie LaVeau.

"I've been up against Diamond Lil before, and I know she's tough. But I haven't wrestled LaVeau yet, so I don't really know what to expect here," Dagmar says.



Tribune photo by LONNIE WILSON

Dagmar head locks promoter Louie Miller

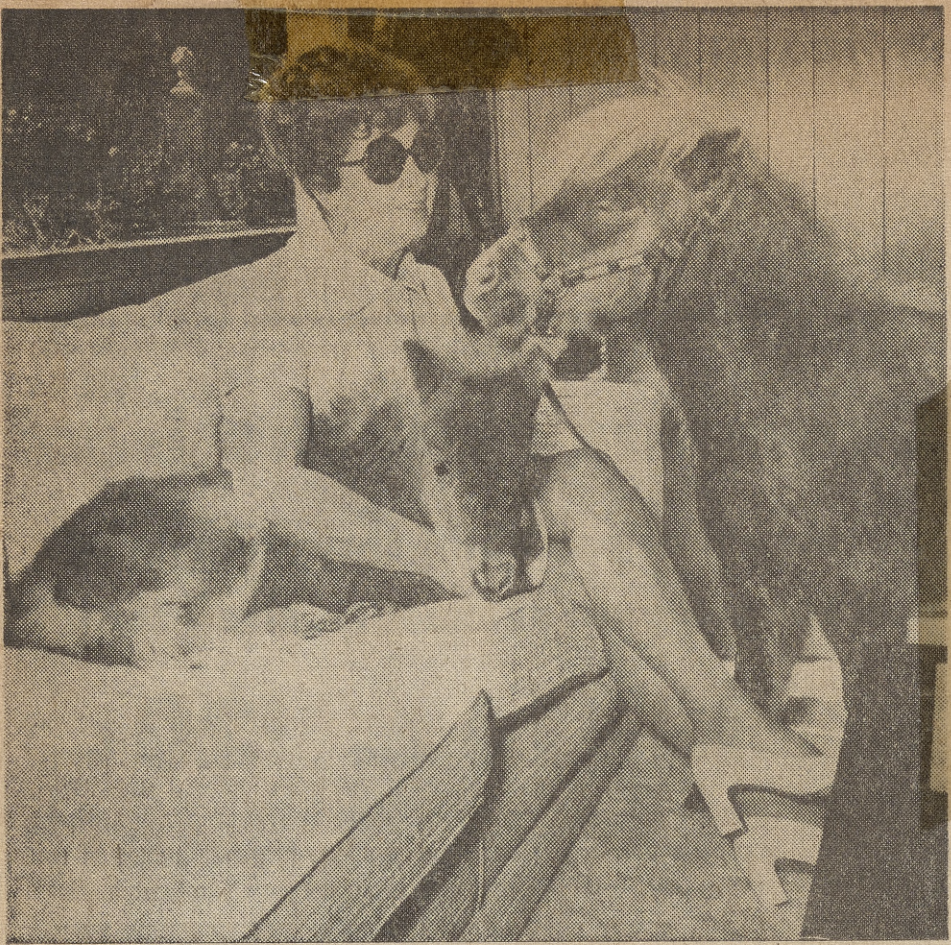
Her best hold is a Boston crab, which finds Dagmar "jumping up and locking my legs around my opponent's head, so she flips over and allows me to put pressure on for a pin. It's a good submission move, but you have to out-manuever the girl you're wrestling."

The National Wrestling Alliance, which governs women wrestlers, surprisingly has no world champion. But Dagmar, who says she wins "about 80 per cent of my matches," is hoping that'll develop before she's finished.

"There are about 60 women midgets wrestling, and I've been up against 59 of 'em, so I think I'm among the top four or five, along with Diamond Lil, Doll Darcel from Canada and Dolly Paige.

As a champion, they'll have to look up at her. "If I get a chance, I'll be ready."





**HAZEL ELY HAS SOME UNUSUAL LIVING ROOM COMPANIONS**  
But Cricket and Coco really prefer the refrigerator area

—Examiner photo by Mike Musura

## Horses Right at Home In an East Bay Parlor

By Harold V. Streeter

Ray Ely allows horses in his living room.

Hazel, his wife, welcomes them with hugs.

Their hooves sinking deep into the white wall-to-wall carpeting, the horses head instinctively for the kitchen and stop by the refrigerator. They know where the carrots are.

Ely, an East Bay car dealer, makes a hobby of raising one of the world's rarest breeds of horses — miniatures descended from Arabians.

### 2 Feet Tall

They never get more than 26 inches tall and weigh only around 100 pounds. And they're too small for children to ride.

Ely's sumptuous ranch-style home is in an area of the Oakland hills where many a resident's pride is the swimming pool. Ely has a pool. But his pride is the area out back where one building bears the sign "Ramundo," and another, "Ely's Horse Hotel."

Ramundo, a black stallion Ely bought in Spain for \$7500, recently sired a reddish-brown mare colt, Coco, now two months old, 18 inches high — and cuddly.

Another Ely pride among the nine miniatures is Malicious, a year-old son of Ramundo with a name that bespeaks his frisky nature.

the last 24-hours-around-the-clock watch.

"The colts are carried by the mother for 11 months," Mrs. Ely said.

"But they're born in five to 15 minutes time. And they're too small to kick out of the birth sacs in which they're born. If we weren't there, they'd be dead in a matter of minutes."

Ely had been wanting miniatures ever since he saw some years ago in Argentina. Six years ago, on returning from Europe, the Elys stopped in Washington, D.C., to visit Mrs. Ely's sister.

A little girl happened by with a tiny pony. Ely voiced his admiration. The girl said her mother knew a man in Virginia who raised horses even smaller. That led Ely to a contact in Marion, Va., and purchase of three mares.

Ramundo's barn, a miniature, befitting his own character, has pictures on the wall. One is of a horse-drawn fire-wagon of the Gay 90's at Dorchester, Mass. If Ramundo ever takes a real close look at those white stallions and senses their true size, it could scare the hell out of him.

### 'Pets'

"They're pets, just like poodle dogs," Ely said.

"They don't bite or kick. And they're very intelligent. We have to double-lock all the gates. They can lift the latches.

"In two minutes, you can teach one to shake hands."

Coco shakes by lifting a hoof so small that a quarter can cover it like a horseshoe would.

"I've hooked them up to a cart and in 20 minutes they're driving," Ely beams.

### Guest House

On a recent hot day, Hazel Ely left the guest house door open for airing. A short time later, a neighbor girl rushed over to announce, "Mrs. Ely, Cricket is in your guest house and has his head sticking out of the bathroom window."

That brings up the question: Are the horses house broken?

With a laugh, Mrs. Ely answers:

"No, I can't say that they are. But so far we've never had an accident. But then we don't allow them inside very long."

The miniature horses are strictly for showing. They've been at Oakland Raider football games as a halftime attraction, and displayed for fund-raising affairs for disease research.

### Birth

When Malicious and Coco were born, Ray and Hazel Ely slept in the barn during



**PHILIP MORRIS GIVES "JOHNNY" A REST**  
after 41 years at windows and mikes

—UPI Telephoto

## The Philip Morris bellboy is retired

RICHMOND, Va. (UPI) — Philip Morris Inc.'s famed bellboy, "Johnny," has retired after 41 years and millions of calls for "Phil-lip Mor-rees!"

John Louis Roventini, a midget, quit his job as a New York bellboy 41 years ago to do commercials for Philip Morris Inc. Tobacco Co.

Roventini had only one line, but it made him famous and helped skyrocket the company's sales.

His cry, "Call for Phil-lip Mor-rees," was heard more than a million times across the country on radio and television commercials.

Last weekend, Roventini, the 48-inch tall son of Italian immigrants, retired.

The company, in announcing his retirement, described the 64-year-old Roventini "as the world's most famous living trademark." It said his retirement "marks the end of an era."

From 1933 to 1947, Roventini, known as "Johnny Philip Morris," was heard on as many as four radio shows a day. Those were live shows, not taped, so Roventini had to be at the studio to belt out his oneliner on cue.

ing agency, asked him to locate "Mr. Philip Morris."

Roventini went through the hotel singing out "Call for Phil-lip Mor-rees" and the firm's two executives loved it.

They offered him a \$100 a week to do commercials for the firm. After some hesitation, Roventini quit his \$25 a week job and took it.

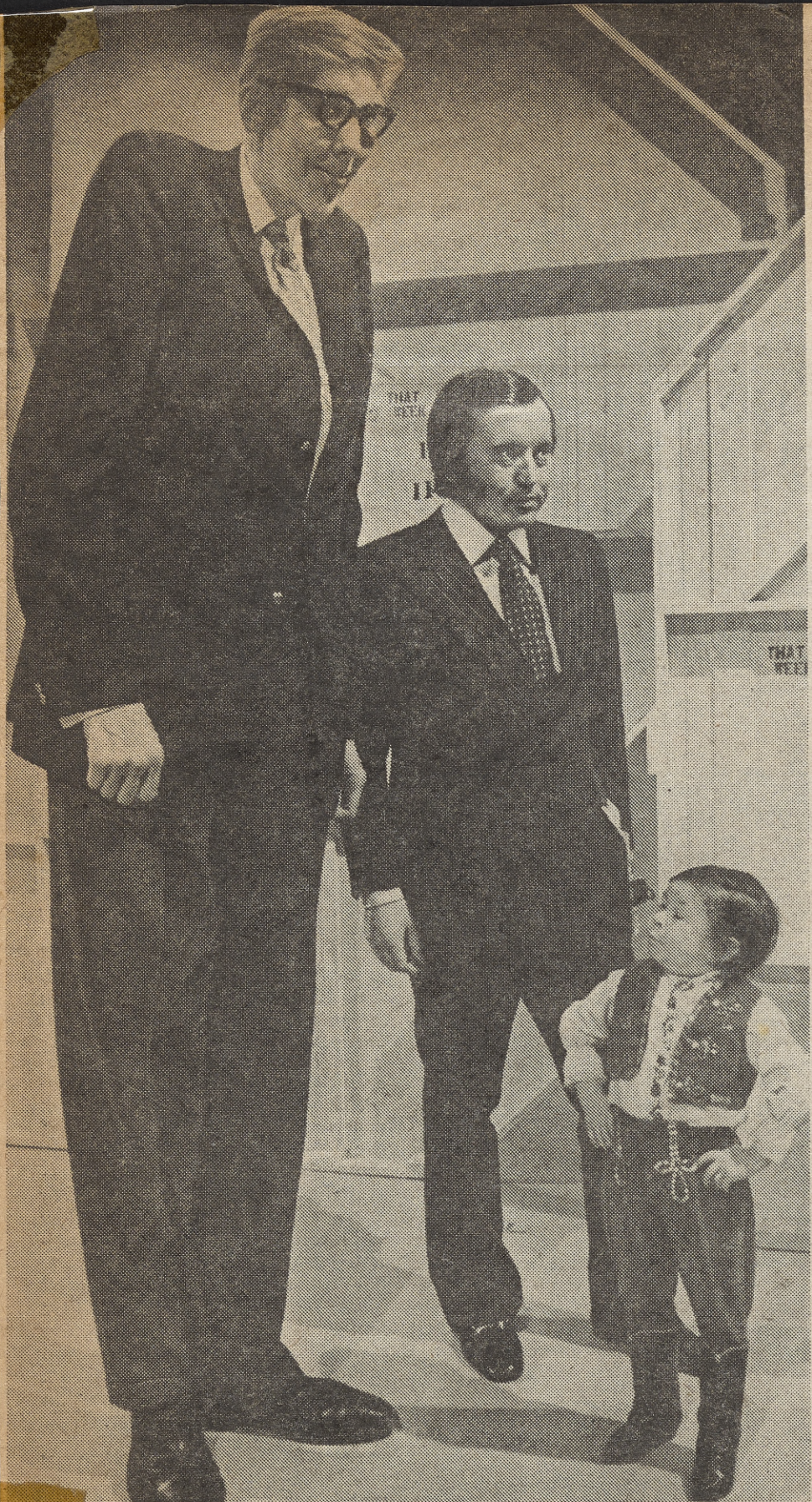
The company held a ceremony for Roventini Saturday at the opening of their newest Richmond plant.

On television, Roventini rang out his call dressed in a red and black bellboy's uniform. He also made personal appearances at festivals, conventions and parades.

Roventini's career began in 1933 while working at the New Yorker Hotel, where he was featured as the "smallest bellboy in the world."

Alfred E. Lyon, then Philip Morris vice president for sales, and Milton Blow, president of the firm's advertis-





**HIGHEST AND LOWEST:** World's tallest man, Donald Koehler, 8-foot-2, is introduced by TV personality David Frost, who is 6-feet tall, to smallest man in the world, 32-inch Mihaly Meszaros.

## Life at the Top Can Be a Pain

### Says World's Tallest Man

By CYNTHIA TIVERS

Life at the top can be both vexing and hilarious, says Donald Koehler — who at 8 feet 2 inches is the world's tallest living man.

"One time a little boy ran up to me and kicked me in the shin as hard as he could," Koehler, 50, told The ENQUIRER.

"Then he ran back to his father and shouted: 'See, Daddy? I told you he wasn't on stilts!'"

The Chicago colossus, a salesman, smiled as he recalled how a new girl in his office reacted to his awesome height upon meeting him for the first time.

"She'd seen her first Frankenstein movie the night before," he said. "When I walked up to be introduced she had her back to me, filing something. As she turned and saw me, her eyes grew wide and her mouth dropped open. She was so shook up we had to send her home for the rest of the day!"

Koehler, who's listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the tallest living man, said people are often shocked when they first see him.

"One time I walked into a bar, and a drunk who'd been sitting there all night turned and looked at me.

"I think he saw my waist first, then worked his way up.

"Then he turned back and looked at his drink for a long minute.

"I think I've had enough," he said — and left!"

Koehler admits his height and weight — 310 pounds — cause him plenty of problems.

He's broken through chairs, must have all his clothes custom-made, and has to endure all sorts of jokes about his height.

But he says he'd rather be tall than short.

Last year Koehler met the world's smallest man, Mihaly Meszaros of Hungary — who stands just over 32 inches — when they appeared together on TV's David Frost Show.

"I couldn't believe my eyes!" said Koehler.

"He was so small! I think he came up to my knees. And he had to be carried around because he could easily get lost in a crowd.

"After meeting him, I said: 'I'm glad I went up — because being short has too many problems!'"



## He's Just a Growing Boy

When Stevie Kling of St. Louis, Mo., started kindergarten he was the size of an 18-month-old child (left). His problem was a lack of pituitary gland growth hormones. He became

part of a successful research project and now, after taking hormone injections for seven years, Stevie has caught up with his classmates (front row, right, in photo).—(AP)



**TINY TITAN** — Michu is Hungarian, 34 years old, and 33 inches tall. His story, as related over lunch to I-G newsmen Richard Ramella, is on page 2 today.

—I-G Photo



## Big Attraction



2-foot, 9-inch Mihaly Mezaros arrived in New York for circus debut

AP Wirephoto

## Circus Star

## World's Smallest Man

### New York

The greatest show on earth's newest Tom Thumb — 2-foot-9-inch Mihaly Mezaros of Budapest, Hungary — makes his U.S. debut here today at the Madison Square Garden opening of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Mezaros, 34, who as a professional acrobat-dancer is known throughout Europe as Michu, arrived at Kennedy airport here last night and was greeted by circus president and producer Irvin Feld.

Feld considers Michu, believed to be the smallest adult in the world, the circus find of the decade. General Tom Thumb, P.T. Barnum's attraction in the mid-1800s, was 3 feet, 4 inches tall.

On his arrival at the airport, Michu, through an interpreter, complained that U.S. customs agents had confiscated a salami and a bag of snacks he had brought from Europe. But he smoothed over the disagreement with a few dance numbers especially for the customs staff and other government officials at the terminal.

Puffing on a large cigar, Michu said he had left his fiancée — who towers over him by a full three inches — in his native Budapest.

Michu was orphaned at an early age and at the age of 12 was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Liebel, who had an act of their own with a traveling circus. He gradually became a performer in his own right.

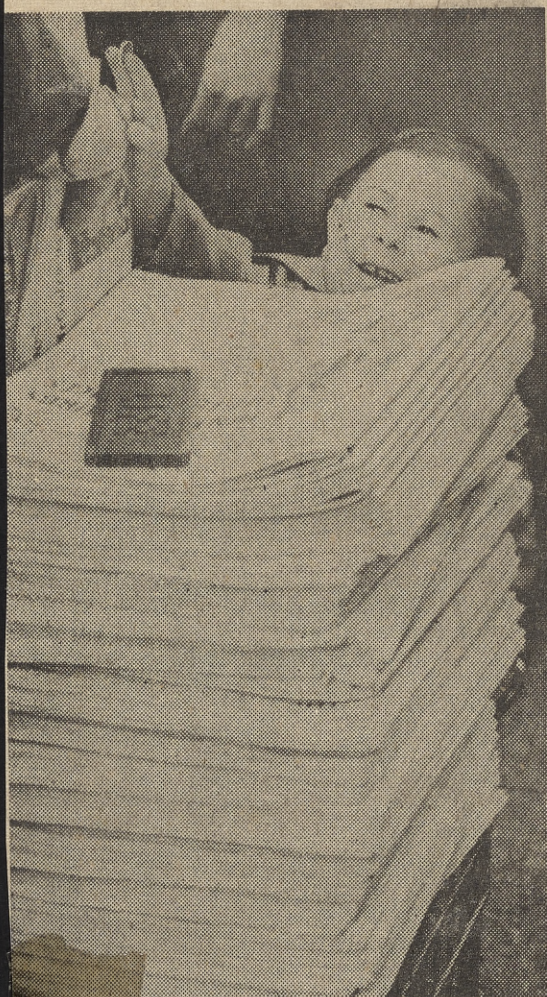
Reuters

## Big City Living

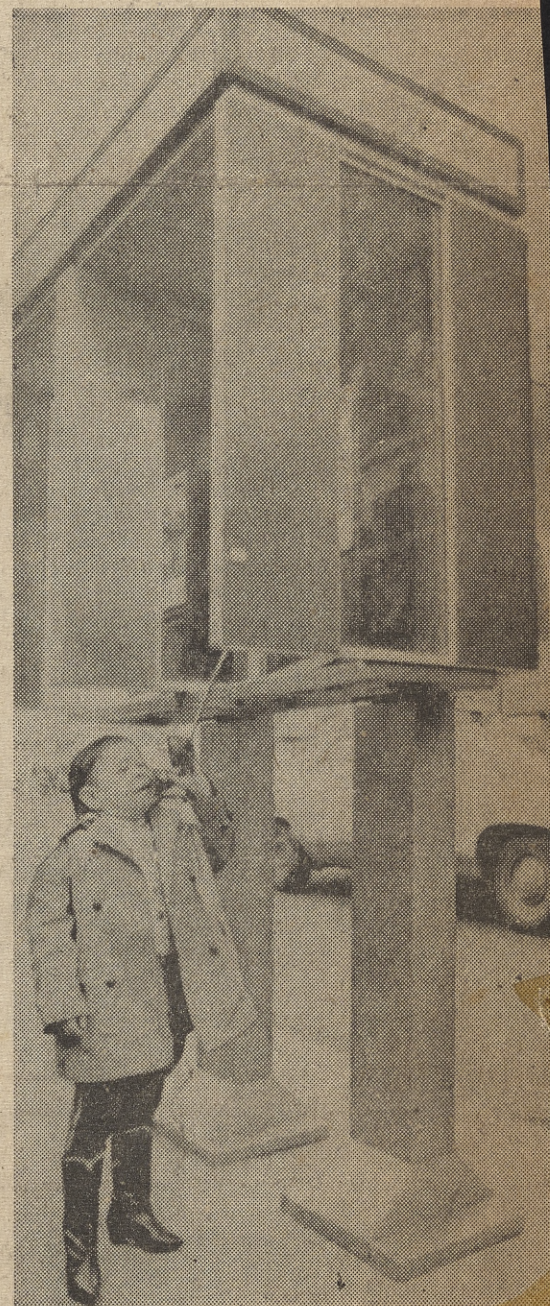


Mezaros lit up a normal-size cigar and had a big smoke

Mihaley Mezaros, the 33-inch-tall performer for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus, tried Manhattan on for size. The Hungarian dancer-acrobat is 34 years old.



He had to reach over a vendor's newspapers



A public telephone was a long way up

AP Wirephoto





Newsday photo

Bob Hermine with the troupe of midgets: Butch, in front, and from left, Pepi, Gary, Mimi, Hilda, Elizabeth, Willie and Ruth

**'We Make People Happy'**

## Why the Little People Are Here on Earth

### New York

When the New York World's Fair of 1939-40 packed up and left Flushing Meadows it left behind some colossal monuments and some small people.

The architectural exhibits that remained include the amphitheater at one end of Flushing Meadow Lake where Billy Rose staged the first aquacades. The little people who stayed on were midgets imported from Europe by impresario Maurice Guest for his Little Miracle Theater.

Some of the midgets settled into a two-family house on a quiet residential block in Flushing. Eight of them, some veterans and some newer immigrants, still live there. They are the surrogate family of a normal-size circus-bred Austrian, Bob Hermine.

They have made their livelihood as a theatrical troupe whose members have been in movies, on TV, in commercials, in vaudeville and in circuses. They have even earned their bread wearing those stuffed Disney cartoon character suits.

Hermine, 60-ish, stands about 5 feet, 7 or 8 inches tall and wears a Solzhenitsyn-style beard that gives him a pronounced leprechaun look.

"There are eight in the family," he explains, "plus my wife and myself. My son and my daughter lived here but moved away when they grew up. There had been 86 little people imported by Maurice Guest in 1939.

"The Miracle Town, or midgets' village, had little houses, a little hotel and a stage where we put on shows every hour. We rotated a show among the four troupes. It was right across the street from the Aquacade. We decided to stay here. First of all, the war had begun. And, naturally, there was Hitler," he says.

The Flushing neighborhood has changed. The

two-family brick house is now hemmed in by highrise apartments and there is less work for midgets these days.

The troupe's downstairs apartment is now rented to a normal-size family, since income is apparently less steady than in the past years.

Pepi, who joined the troupe in 1937 with his sister, Mimi, is from Yugoslavia. "My sister was a seamstress," he recalls.

"My parents wanted me to learn a trade. I found out

strates its brass band with marching productions of "Anchors Aweigh" and an encore of "The Marine Hymn" to the applause of neighborhood children.

Pepi's sister, Mimi, who admits to being 62, smiles. "We have a good life here." She is the troupe's seamstress and makes the costumes. "I was a stripper, like Gypsy Rose Lee, while I dangled with a metal bit in my teeth 60 feet high."

"We are normal in our way," Pepi adds. "We feel like normal people. I don't feel different from other people, unless someone treats me that way. That's when I know.

"We prefer to be called 'little people,'" he says. "The word midget doesn't bother us. Ignorance has always existed. In ancient times, people like us who were different were burned at the stake."

"Hitler killed any little fellow he found," Hermine adds.

Midgets are not as much in demand for show biz as they once were.

"We play a few colleges," Hermine says. "Where we used to do one hour, we've cut it down to a half-hour." The troupe still travels with European circuses and does small roles in movies.

Newsday

**'We are  
normal  
in our way'**

there were other little people like us and we joined them. In the beginning, growing up, we had thought we were the only little people, then, later we were told that theatrical midgets made a good living. I've never regretted my decision.

"Show business is our life," Pepi said. "We get rewards out of it. I feel like I was put on earth for some purpose, not just some accident. We made millions of people happy, as well as making a living."

The entire troupe graciously displays its tightwire act about eight feet off the ground and then demon-



# A Big Little Man

THE fun here starts with the subject himself. He makes you aware of him in an enjoyable way. He's a character — in the loveable sense.

He is Don Davidson, the publicity man for the Atlanta Braves. He comes to mind following the Giants' four-game series with the Braves which ended last Thursday. Also, this Sunday is the last day of his life that Davidson can keep what he says is his greatest claim to fame — he is 42 inches high, and 42 years old.

Starting with his 43rd birthday tomorrow, unless he is fitted for elevator shoes, he will still be 42-up.

Davidson started with the Braves in Boston, in 1948, and has been with them through thick and thin, also through Milwaukee and Atlanta.

★ ★ ★

HIS CHOICE of fighting words on occasion would force an eight-footer to put up his dukes. As the story goes he was a Braves' rooter and clubhouse boy. At dinner one night, when he was only 12 years old, he looked sullen. His father asked about the game.

Don snarled, "Those — — — — —, the dirty — — — — — beat us!"

His mother was aghast. "Donald Davidson," she ordered. "Wash your mouth with soap and go upstairs. No dinner for you tonight."

The penalty did nothing for Davidson. He hasn't missed an expletive since.

★ ★ ★

THE LOCAL STORY on Davidson concerns the time he was walking through the Jack Tar lobby wearing dark glasses, and when he saw Tom (Clancy) Sheehan, then manager of the Giants, he shouted:

"Hi-ya, Clancy!"

Sheehan, wise to the ways of Davidson, held his head high and walked past without saying a word.

Davidson was enraged. He jumped at Sheehan and began pulling his coat-tail. "You big four-flushin' — — — — —", he shouted. "Now that you're manager you've gone big time, you hot-dog — — — — — no good!"

Sheehan looked down and apologized. "Why Donald, I didn't recognize you in those dark glasses."

Davidson drives a small Buick with extensions for brakes, gas pedal and clutch. He knows the history of the Braves and of its individuals. Ask Davidson about



Don Davidson with some members of the 1958 Brave pennant winners. From left: Del Crandall, Bob Trowbridge, Davidson and Joe Adcock.

any statistic and you'll get the correct answer, plus a good-natured personal joke if he knows you well enough.

★ ★ ★

EDWIN POPE of the Miami Herald tells of the time Davidson received "Greetings" from Uncle Sam. Davidson didn't know some of his wise-guy friends had phoned up the government notice, and had planned the Army physical examination with the doctor.

Davidson was obviously uninformed. "I figured we must be losing World War II pretty bad if they needed me," Don explained, "but I showed up anyway just to prove they had made a mistake."

At the induction center he was whisked into line. The doctor said, "Strip."

Davidson was stunned, then found his normal voice. "Whadaya mean, strip?," he roared. "Can't you see how big I am? Why don't you measure me first?"

The doctor smiled, indulgently. "Everyone here must strip. So strip!"

Davidson was forced through the hours of an entire examination. "On my way out," said Da-

vidson, "they told me it was a joke."

Davidson laughs as he recalls things about himself. "If I'd keep my mouth locked," he once mused, "maybe they wouldn't work me over."

★ ★ ★

DON'S VIOLENT reaction was tested, with remarkable results, by several Braves' ball players at a skyscraper hotel. They arranged for the clerk to assign Don a room on the 20th floor.

In the elevator, the team members pressed the elevator button at the tenth floor, then stepped out, leaving Don alone. He couldn't jump high enough to press the 20th floor button. Finally, he pressed "Lobby," then rushed to the desk and made the air blue while Braves' ball players stood laughing behind the potted palms. The clerk, in on the game, assigned a lower floor only after a suitable period of harrassment.

Once, they gave Davidson a "Night" at the ball park. One of his gifts was a \$500 bond. After the game he initiated a crap game and blew the \$500.

"No sweat," he said. "I still have my World Series rings."

Midget sisters Eva and Rannveig make a strange-looking foursome when they walk with their tall husbands in the little fishing village of Loedingen, Norway.

Eva, 28, is 3 feet, 5 inches tall and 31-year-old Rannveig is 2 inches taller. This handicap hasn't prevented the girls from getting married, but local villagers were shocked by the fact that the girls found tall, handsome husbands.

Eva married Tore Kjensberg, whom she's known since schooldays.

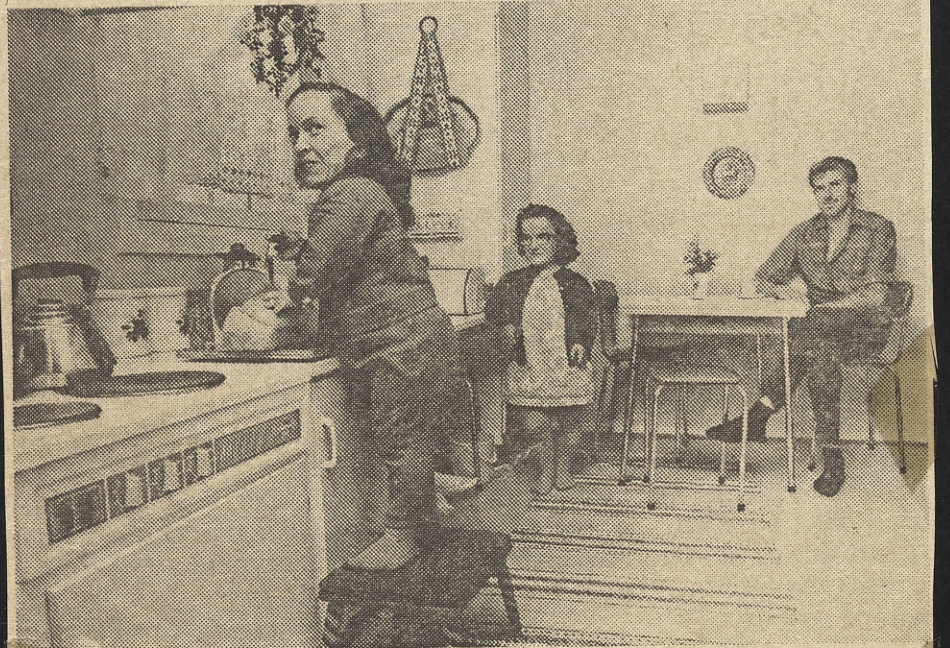
Rannveig married Baard Eina when he answered an advertisement that she had placed in a sort of lonely-hearts magazine.

Both fishermen, the hardworking husbands have built nice new homes for their little wives — with some special household fixtures to help overcome their height problems.

Even though they've been married 5 years, when Eva and Rannveig appear in public with their husbands they are still subject to ridicule by the people of the village.

But the couples enjoy each other's company, and they're doing pretty well in their own little world.

## Speaking of Odd Couples



KITCHEN has low counter tops, but Eva still needs stool to slice loaf of bread as sister Rannveig and husband Tore Kjensberg look on.



LITTLE WOMEN: Midget sisters Eva (left) and Rannveig scurry to keep up with long-legged husbands as they go for a stroll.



# Nobody Sees Man He Calls

By BILL STROBEL

Johnny Roventini has a life-time job calling a guy nobody knows.

He has been calling him for 32 years in every state but Alaska and Hawaii, has made a fortune in the process, made friends with some of the most famous persons in the world and become a celebrity himself.

In fact, at one point in his career there was such a demand for his services that his sponsor found it necessary to hire eight stand-ins.

And while Johnny expects to continue his search for the elusive Philip Morris as long as voice and limbs last, he has only one complaint about his job — he's grown with it.

"I grow about a quarter of an inch a year which means that I have to get three new uniforms every year," he explained.

"When I first called for Philip Morris I was three foot seven inches tall," he said. "Now I'm four feet, three and one half inches and I weigh 97 pounds. Five pounds overweight."

His rate of growth hasn't been enough, however, to prevent certain misunderstandings with law enforcement officials.

Johnny is an ardent yachtsman and the owner of a 26-foot boat.

"I was cruising on Long Island Sound one time when the Coast Guard pulled alongside and an officer demanded to talk to the skipper," he recalled.

"I told him I was the captain and he said 'knock it off kid or I'll turn you over my knee, go call the captain'."

A similar problem developed when he was taking driving lessons from his father and was stopped by a burly police sergeant.

In both instances, Johnny solved the problem by sounding his B-flat call and presenting the authorities with autographed photos of himself.

Johnny was born in Brooklyn and still lives there.

His parents and his two brothers and sisters are normal-sized "which makes me the baby of the family no matter how much I grow."



A voice out of the dim past is still calling for that guy

He was working as a \$15 per week page boy at the old New Yorker Hotel when he was auditioned for his life-time job.

"These two men asked me to page Philip Morris and I did, not realizing that there is no such person," he said. "I called for him in the barbershop, the lobby, the restaurant and all the bars. In fact, I've been calling for him ever since and I've never found him."

When the two men told him he'd passed the audition and offered him a life-time contract that would make him famous, Johnny was skeptical.

"I'll have to ask my mother," he told them. He took the job

but he continued to play it safe even after his radio debut.

He called for Philip Morris for two months on coast-to-coast radio before he quit his job at the hotel.

"I was making \$10 a week in tips and I didn't want to give up a good thing," he explained.

Johnny has lost track of the number of times he has given his B-flat call to the accompaniment of Ferde Grofe's "Grand Canyon Suite," but in the golden days of radio, he did it three times per night — once for the East Coast, once for the Midwest and once for the Mountain States and the Pacific Coast.

To his best recollection, he

only missed one broadcast.

"My car got stalled in a blizzard but there was no problem because the studio audience made the calls for me."

Once he gave the call from a prone position. He hadn't been drinking, he is quick to explain, he just tripped over one of the cables en route to the microphone.

Johnny has learned to page Mr. Morris in Swedish, German, Japanese, Chinese and Yiddish and after 32 years there is only one thing that might cause him any difficulty.

If he ever finds Philip Morris he'll probably forget why he is calling him.





# Michael Dunn's Stature as Actor Not Dwarfed by Physical Size

NEW YORK (CPF)—Early in the film, "Ship of Fools," a passenger asks Michael Dunn if he is positive he is not related to a certain man, Dunn, a 3'10" dwarf, shakes his head and sighs: "That's the way it is; people are always mistaking me for someone else."

No longer. For his performance in the film Dunn has received an Academy Award nomination as best supporting actor. Whether or not he wins an Oscar April 14, his stature as a fine actor is growing.

It's the only stature that the 30-year-old dwarf really cares about.

"If somebody tried to insult me by saying 'you little midget' or something like that, it wouldn't bother me at all," Dunn said in an interview. "But if somebody called me a lousy actor, I'd be incensed."

He admits that his desire to be a highly competent performer is part of his method of coping with the fact that most of the people in the world are bigger than he is. While many persons who share Dunn's physical handicap have chosen to either beg for pity or sell themselves as freaks, Dunn long ago chose to be a performer who would rely on talent for his applause and his livelihood.

As a child—he was born of normal-size parents—Dunn hoped to become a concert pianist and in fact gave piano recitals while still in grade school. But soon, his congenital disease (chondrodystrophy, which affects the bones) hampered his arm movement and closed off that avenue.

"But I couldn't stop the music," Dunn recalls. "It had become too much a part of my life." He turned to singing, and long before his acting career blossomed, he had made a living as a nightclub singer.

During a recent six-month engagement in New York, the cabaret critic for The New York Times noted that soon after the dwarf comes on, "whatever attention might be focussed on Mr.



MICHAEL DUNN ON BOARD  
... featured in 'Ship of Fools'

Dunn's size is dispelled."

"He has such an attractive and winning personality and is so talented a singer and performer," the critic wrote, "that one quickly views him only in terms of these qualities."

That's all Dunn has ever asked, but until recently producers and directors were reluctant to take a chance on him as a bona fide performer. "I never had trouble with audiences," he said. "It's always been with the producers who don't know what I can do."

For a little man, Dunn has done just about everything. In between his singing and acting, he has been a house detective, a teacher in a

career, Dunn felt he had a calling to become a Brother in a religious order. He applied to the Franciscans, Benedictines, the Society of St. Paul and the Capuchins, who accepted him for postulancy at St. Bonaventure's Monastery in Detroit (Dunn had grown up in nearby Dearborn).

"There was some talk that they might even get me dispensed from the canon law that prohibits men with violent physical differences from celebrating Mass since they would draw attention to themselves; it's called 'improper admiration.'"

Nevertheless, Dunn chose to leave when his postulancy ended, and returned to his singing career. In New York, he appeared in an off-Broadway musical and from there moved into straight dramatic parts.

## SEEN

In one off-Broadway show, "Here Come the Clowns," he was seen by playwright Edward Albee, who had been commissioned to adapt Carson McCuller's "The Ballad of the Sad Cafe."

When that play opened on Broadway, Dunn was "Cousin Lymon" and the recipient of excellent notices. Soon he was introduced to TV audiences on "The Jack Paar Show" and was featured in a six-page spread in Life magazine.

Not much later he was cast in "Ship of Fools" as Glocken, who introduces the story, appears throughout it and gives a closing commentary, about the foolish lives some people lead.

Now that things "are opening up" for him, Dunn doesn't mind saying that one of his strongest acting ambitions is to play the lead in a movie version of Par Lagerkvist's novel, "The Dwarf."

school for mentally retarded children, a tutor in English, a technical writer for science journals and rewrite man on the sports desk of the Miami Daily News. While a student at the University of Miami, he was editor of a college news magazine that was judged the best in the country.

And he was almost a Capuchin Brother.

Not long after graduating from college in 1956 and starting his professional

## Growth Hormone In Offing

A synthetic hormone to stimulate the growth of abnormally short children may be available in the near future, says the director of the pituitary gland bank at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco.

Dr. Roberto Escamilla says that steady progress has been made since Dr. Herbert Evans first discovered the growth hormone in animal glands in 1924.

Some years later, Dr. C. H. Li of the Hormone Research Laboratory at U.C. isolated the human growth hormone using human pituitary glands.

After the establishment of the first Pituitary Gland Bank in 1960, Dr. Li prepared the hormones for trial in a limited number of patients.

"It was found to be a very good growth stimulant in children where growth had been retarded, and worked particularly well when the reason was lack of pituitary function," reported Dr. Escamilla.

Last year Dr. Li completed studies of the molecular structure of the human growth hormone. Escamilla hopes that "armed with this knowledge a synthetic growth hormone can be prepared which will become available for more general use."

More than 30,000 glands have been collected by the U.C. Pituitary Bank since 1960.

## Little People Convene



CROWNING — Frieda Groeneveld, 26, of Tacoma, Wash., and Felix Silla, 30, North Hollywood, were crowned King and Queen of the Little People of America during their 1967 national convention in Los Angeles. Mrs. Groeneveld, a kindergarten teacher, is 3 feet, 11 inches tall, while Silla stands 3 feet, 10 inches.

## DWARFISM AND LACK OF SLEEP

Lack of sleep can stunt a child's growth.

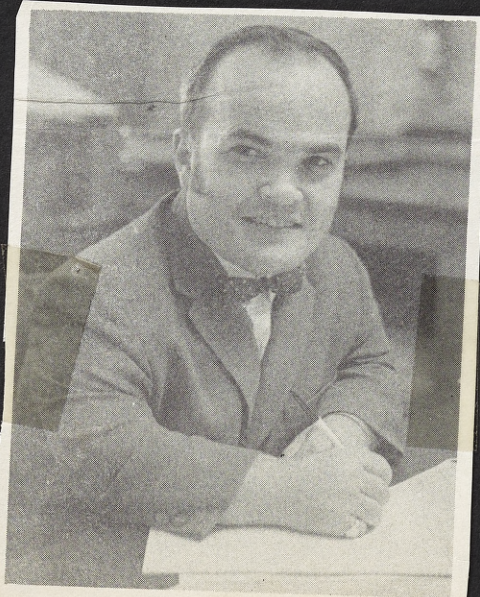
So maintain Australian researchers who claim to have shown that the basic growth hormone necessary for physical development is released into the bloodstream while a child sleeps soundly.

Dr. Leslie Lazarus, director of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research at St. Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, says that poor sleeping and the resultant diminished secretion of the growth hormone is probably what causes the ordinary type of dwarfism in children, which is associated with lack of parental love.





Mary Kitchens



FROM  
THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Oakland Tribune Mon., Jan. 17, 1972



OKLAHOMA CITY — Stevie Rosich is only 3, very small for his age and when he is full grown, he will be only 4 feet 6 inches tall. But that's all right with his father, Steven, because he is only 4 feet 6.

Rosich and his wife Karen are members of the Little People of America, an organization of persons no taller than 4 feet 8.

Stevie was adopted by the Rosiches through the Little People of America. The organization will not allow exceptionally small children to be adopted by full-size parents because, says Rosich, "they treat them like toys instead of children."



NEWS REVIEW PHOTOS  
ENERGETIC HARDBALL TEAM ENTERTAINED CROWD



#### MARILYN WEGNER GRADUATES



Marilyn Wegner, District 12 member from Porterville, California, graduated in May from California Baptist College in Riverside, California. Several members of District 12 attended.



JOHN HOPKINS SHORT STATURE SYMPOSIUM  
held May 25th, at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland





DISTRICTS 5-6 REGIONAL MEETING - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Sandra Kitchens, selected as Miss Mini of 1974, during the District 8 meeting in Houston.



DISTRICT TWELVE SPRING MEETING  
held April 19-21, in Sacramento, California

If your smiling face wasn't in the  
CONVENTION PICTURE of 1966,  
Let's hope it will be in the  
CONVENTION PICTURE of 1967!



LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC., DISTRICT 2  
OCTOBER 29, 1966, HARRISBURG, PA.





#### L.P.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Most of the members of the members of the Board of Directors, both 1965-1966 and 1966-1967, are shown above. Front row, left to right, Billy Barty, founder and past President; Lee Wright, Director of District 8; Paul Jones, Director of District 5; Frieda Groeneveld,

representing District 11; Mrs. Shannon Carstens, new Director of District 10; Miss Frances Conville, past Secretary; Miss Ann Cleary, Director of District 2; Bob Fowler, Director of District 9; Mrs. Margaret Orr, Director of District 3; Lee Kitchens, President. Back row, left to right, Charles Bedow, past Treas-

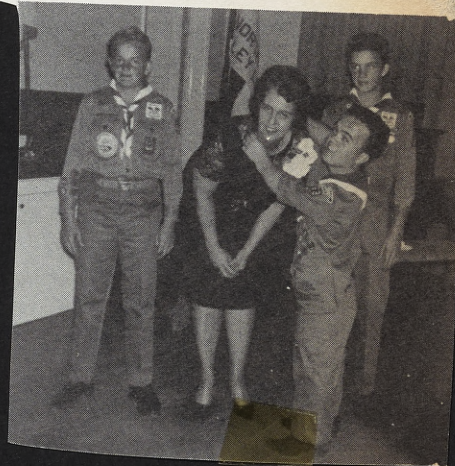
urer and now Vice President, Bill Albaugh, past Vice President (now chairman of the Public Relations); Dan Turner, past President; Miss Harriet Hoppert, Director of District 6; Bob East, Director of District 12; Bob Brower, past President and past Director of District 10.



Andre Bourse Earns Eagle Scout



My oh my, isn't that a handsome picture of District 12's meeting over the Labor Day weekend at the HACIENDA HOTEL in Fresno. But what I want to know is where was our QUEEN from the Convention, Anna Dixon?



THE BEDOW'S AND BAEHM'S AT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS LAST SUMMER

VOLUME 5 NO. 4

L.P.A.

AUGUST 1966

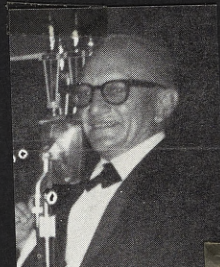


A record-breaking attendance for the third year in a row again highlighted the national convention of Little People of America, Inc., as the group of 173 members and their families attended festivities at the Villa Capri Hotel in Austin, Texas, July 18-21, 1966.

## RECORD ATTENDANCE AT 8TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



JACKIE ROBSON



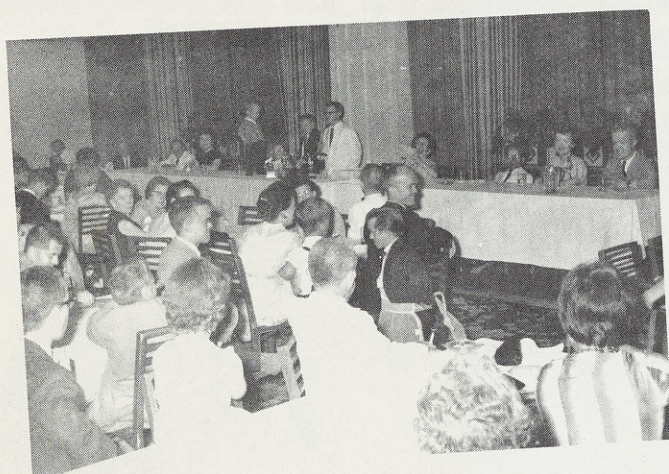
BILLY BARTY







5th Annual Convention--Hotel Kirkwood, Des Moines, Iowa--July 29, 30, 31, & Aug. 1, 1963



VOLUME 3 NO. 8

L.P.A.

AUGUST 1964



**LEE KITCHENS, LPA PRESIDENT  
ALBAUGH RE-ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT**





## **RECORD ATTENDANCE SPARKS 1965 7<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION**

### **TEENAGERS COLUMN**

DARLENE AND DORENE HOWSDEN  
2680 DUNN RD., HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

Happy birthday Connie: Connie Cummings celebrated her 13th birthday, March 12. We welcome her to the teenage group.

Darlene and I met a small person at school. Her name is Carol Gray and she's 18 years old. She's a volunteer worker at Fairmont Hospital in San Leandro.

We were very happy to hear from Donna Lathers. Sorry we missed you at the Los Angeles meetings. Donna is going to be 17 this month. She attends Redondo High School.

We were sorry to hear that Peggy Stockton was ill. But she is now back in school working on a science project.

We were happy to meet Nova Colb at our last Bay Area meeting. She's 18 years old and is a senior in high school. She lives in Williams.

Received a letter from Glenn Summers. He collects out of state automobile tags. If you have a Utah or Idaho tag please let him know. His address is 3411 Fulton Ave., Hapeville, Georgia.

Lydia Thomas and Barbara Nell Rice are both very busy with school.

Darlene and I would like to thank everyone for the nice time we had down in Los Angeles.

We would also like to hear from the twelve year olds. This will help you to get acquainted with our teenage group. If you move or change your address, please let us know.



DARLENE AND DORENE HOWSDEN

### **DISTRICT 2**



More than 80 District 2 and 3 members attended the Fall Regional meeting in Atlantic City early last November. They included:

Left to right back row: Rachel Steinhauser, M.D., Herb Williamson, Bob Dimler, Mrs. Mary Dimler, Miss Delores Dunbar, Miss Barbara Christopherson, James Mastrangelo, Charles Secor, Miss Marney Greenstein, Miss Ronny Starr, Richard Godouse, Joseph Steinberg, Mrs. Laura Steinberg.

SECOND ROW: Mike Valuckas, Mrs. Mary Spector & Stacy, Robert Spector, Herman Lefkoff, Miss Frances McDuffee, Miss Jeanne Oplinger, Richie Heyman, Miss Sherry Hochstadt, Mrs. Emma Lentini, Frank Lentini, Mrs. Kay Smith.

THIRD ROW: Mrs. Judith Wilson, Stanley Wermes, Miss Elizabeth Carroll, Phil Hochstadt, Miss Freda Betsky, Miss Barbara Mangam, Miss Janet Wyburn, Miss Patricia Snowberger, Blye Delair, Miss Helen Uffner, Harry Waxler.

FOURTH ROW: Miss Mabel Peters, Miss Beth Wason, Miss Helen Rossetini, Miss Shirley Lentini, Miss Donna Grandy, Charles Pedersen, Miss Judy Cotter, Miss Noreen Graber, George Baehm, III, Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, Peter Valuckas.

FRONT ROW: Miss Robin Gregory, Miss Sherry Spector, Miss Maggie Robinson, Miss Beth Hoil, David Steinberg, Harold Schulman, Alice Schulman, Mrs. Pat Schulman.



Shirley Berg





The above picture was taken in front of the fireplace in the Great Hall of the famous Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N. C. Left to right: Mr. Rodney Morgan, General Manager Grove Park Inn, Miss Frances Conville, Past President Dan Turner, Marcella Brower and President Bob Brower, Vice President Bill Albaugh and Wife Maria Albaugh, Miss Janet Herrick Secretary, Jim Liles Treasurer and Mrs. Mary Courtney, Director of Sales Grove Park Inn.



BINGO . . . . . Looks like Mrs. Cottonaro and Miss Long are checking with Bob Hinkson in one of our bingo games at the recent National Convention.





Left to right: Back Row: Miss Doris Smith, Dr. Janet Lindstrom, Robert Spector, Dom & Ann Di Celie, Frank & Emma Lentini, Bob Rigert, Mrs. Kay Smith.  
 Next row: Paul Christensen, Herb Williamson, Delores Dunbar, Harry Waxler, Phil Hochstadt, Pat Snowberger, Richard Heyman, Louise Geddie, Charlie Eyler, Joe Geddie, Dee Dee & Bill Miller.  
 Next row: Stanley Wermes, Jeanne Oplinger, Janet Wyburn, Harold Schulman, Pat Schulman, Helen Uffner, Frieda Betsky, Kathy Lewis, Sherry Heyman, Helen Rossettini, Tena & George Baehm III.  
 First row: Robin Gregory, Judy Cotter, Jean Fairbairn, Carole Morris, Alice Schulman, Mike Crispo, Donna Grandy, Shirley Lentini, Noreen Graber, Kevin Kistler, Ann & Bob Hinkson

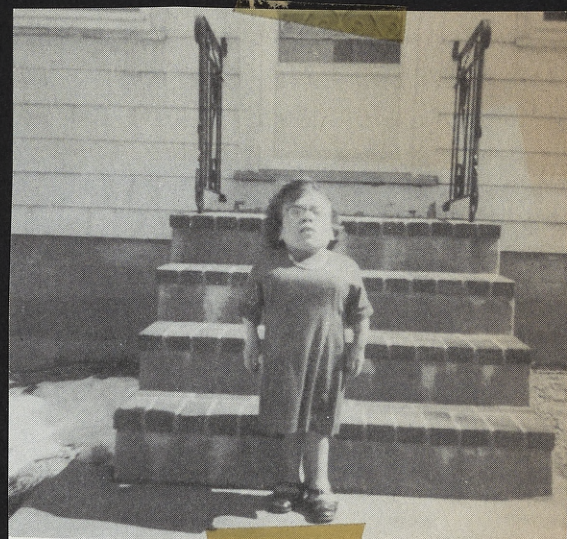


Bob & Marcella Brower

## KING AND QUEEN



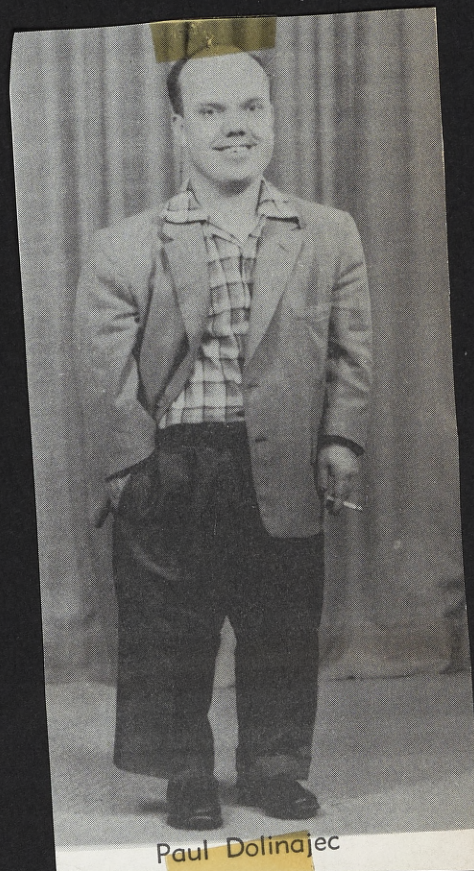
Last year's reigning king, Dennis Binion of North Carolina, crowned Jerry Maren of Hollywood, California and Virginia Gheddes of Ventura, California as the 1964 King and Queen of the Little People of America. The likeable Mr. Binion made the presentation with dignity and honor, and asked that the newly crowned King and Queen cherish such an honor which he was so proud to receive just one year ago. Miss Gheddes was attending her first National convention and stated: "This is the biggest moment of my life". Mr. Maren stands 4'3" tall and Miss Gheddes is 3'9".



Mary Danville



Let 'em Roll . . . . was the familiar cry of Eleanor Ostrow, Tena Anderson, Janet Herrick and Mary Taylor at our recent National Convention in Asheville, N. C.



Paul Dolinajec





This happy group includes members from Districts 2, 3, and 5 at the October regional meeting of Dist. 5.



District 2 Bowling Trophy Winners  
Mary Spector and Bob Rigert



Regional Meeting of Districts 1 — 2



Braving cool, rainy weather, this group enthusiastically joined for a Manhattan Island excursion Sept. 6. They included: (Front row: l-r, Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, Miss Noreen Graber, Miss Helen Uffner and George Baehm, III. Second row: Mrs. Laura Steinberg, Phil Hochstadt, Miss Freida Betsky, Richard Heyman, and Miss Sherry Hochstadt. Third row: Joe Steinberg, James Mastrangelo, Richard Godouse, Miss Heyman.



Back Row — left to right: Herman Hoffstadt, Robert Spector, Martin Mazik, Bill and Marie Albaugh, Dan Turner and George Baehm. Front Row — left to right: Bob Hinkson, Donna Jeffers, Eleanor Ostrow, Marion Van Harken, Katherine Gordon, Janet Herrick and Mary Taylor.

#### MISS KITTY

It was with saddened hearts that we learned of the death of Miss Catherine Gordon (District 2), of New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

Our sympathy is extended to the Gordon family.

To those of us who were privileged to know and love her, 'Miss Kitty' (as she was affectionately called) will be greatly missed. Her courageous spirit, sense of humor, charming and friendly manner made her truly a most beautiful person.

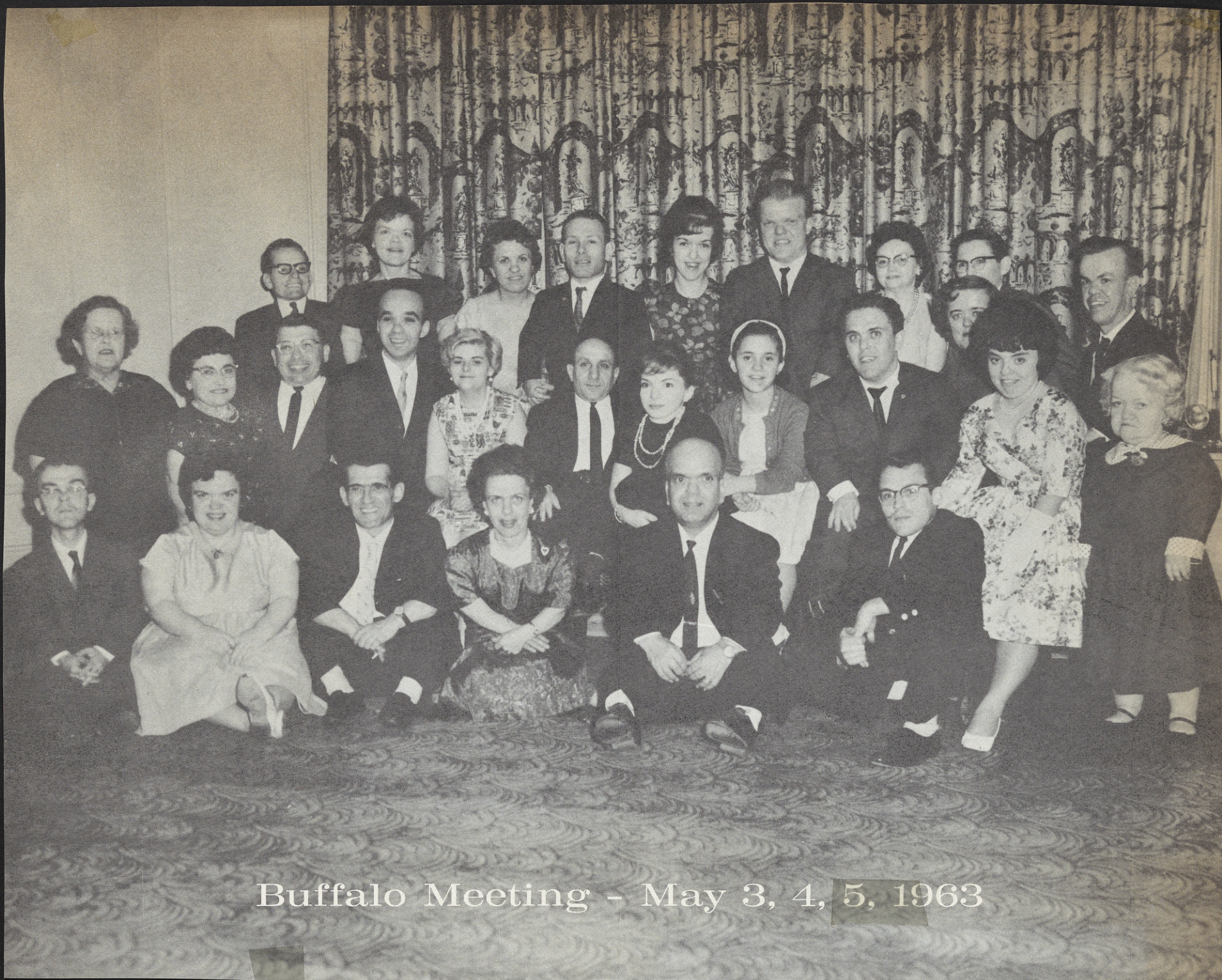
As one of the earlier LPA members Kitty worked hard to promote the group in the Pittsburgh area. A more loyal and dedicated LPA supporter would be hard to find. She dearly loved all little people everywhere and used every opportunity to encourage them to join the organization.

Poor health prevented her from attending the National Convention last year — one of the only conventions she did not attend. It was a big disappointment to her to miss it for she always looked forward to going — meeting old friends and making new ones at the convention.

Yes, Miss Kitty, we shall surely miss you. It was indeed a privilege and a blessing to have known you.

A friend,  
Enid Campbell





Buffalo Meeting - May 3, 4, 5, 1963



George Baehm, III, Miss Frances McDuffee, Miss Donna Grandy, Bob Spector, Herb Williamson. SECOND ROW: Herman Lefkoff, Mrs. Susan Soto, Charlie Eyler, Miss Louise Geddie, Miss Dee Dee Sass, Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, Miss Helen Uffner, Mrs. Marie Raabe, Meinhardt Raabe, Mrs. Marilyn Emegee, Dennis Emegee. FRONT ROW: Miss Elizabeth Carroll, Miss Noreen Graber, Stanley Wermes, Miss Patricia Snowberger, Miss Libby Duckworth, Michael Crispo, Miss Darlene Watson, Sherry Spector, Mrs. Mary Spector, Miss Janet Wyburn, Miss Margie Stermic.



DISTRICT 2



District 2



Shown left are members attending District 2's May 25 meeting, 1. to r. Front row, George Baehm III, Tena Baehm, Noreen Graber, Anthony Soares, & Heather Bullock. 2nd row, Stanley Wermes, Kathy Roche, Mike & Carol Roche, Janet and DeLana Styres, & Marilyn Saltzman. 3rd row, Helen Rossettine, Harold & Alice Schulman, Pat Schulman, Phil Hochstadt, Frieda Betsky, & Marie Raabe. 4th row, Bob Dimler, Herman Lefkoff, Marge Strmec, & Susan Soto. Back row, Mary Dimler, Meinhardt Raabe, Cy Agoss, Ronnie Starr, James Mastrangelo, Helen Uffner, Richard Heyman, & Sherry Hochstadt.





**DISTRICT 5 FALL REGIONAL  
NOVEMBER 16-18th  
BOSTON HEIGHTS, OHIO**

*First row:* William Stankiewicz, Melissa and Jeff Jones, Michael Robinson. *Second row:* Marge and Hank Stankiewicz, Ellie and Paul Jones, Emily Martin, Christine Diehl, Barbara Aring, Sally Baginski, Jean Fairbairn, Peggy Gibbons. *Third row:* Harrell Parker, Jr., Diane Rimar, Turtle Totaro, Gary Friedkin, Linda Lyngass, Ed Aring, Barbara and Brian Morris, Walter Menning, Donna and Mike Ryan. *Last row:* Carolyn Von Lehmden, Vito Zella, Frank Law, Joe Witherow, Phyllis Miller, Diana Layne, Janet Clark, Judy Vasher, Janet Lenney, Kathy Jensen, Bruce Johnson, Henry Stankiewicz.

**DISTRICT 3**

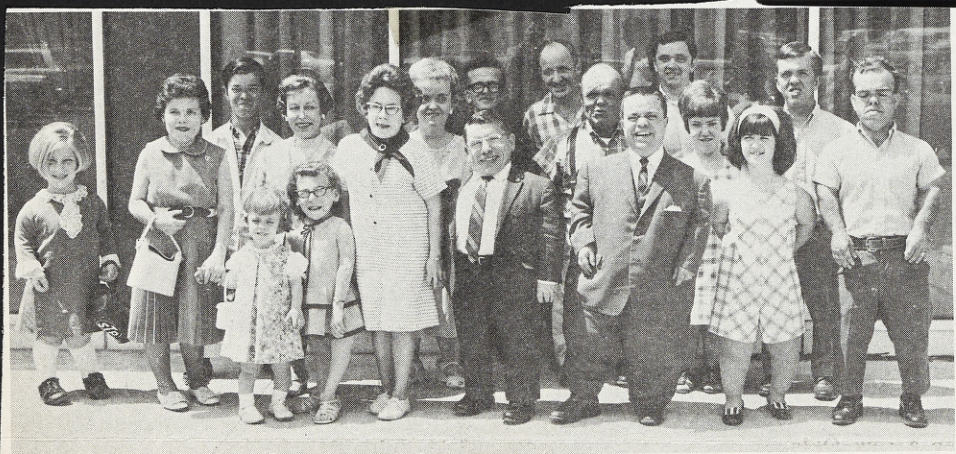


**Back Row, left to right:** Richard Shoppe, Blye Delair, Cy Agoss, Alan Pickard, Sherry Heyman, Richard Heyman, Herman Lefkoff, Joe Steinberg, Frank Lentini, Harold and Pat Schulman.

**Second Row:** Mrs. Terry Goldstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Sandra Mallula, Audrey Mulrain, Lori Higgins, Jean Ringled, Laura Steinberg, Stanley Vermes, Sandra Keggin.

**Third Row:** Chuck Pederson, Emma Lentini, Helen Uffner, Frances McDuffee, Jeanne Oplinger, Tena Baehm, III; George Baehm, III; Janet Wyburn, Jack Cusumano, Carol & Cathy Roche, Mike Roche.

**Front Row:** Scottie Bunce, Mike Treylinek, Noreen Graber, Donna Grandy, Shirley Lentini, Harris Brainin, Sandra Walters, Susan Soto, Helen Rossitini, Bart Cusumano, David Steinberg, Alice Schulman, John Soto.



Above are those attending the May 16-18 meeting of District 3, shown 1. to r. The two in front are Melinda Townsend and Joy Lynn Wyler. Others are Mickey Winn, Mary Townsend, Paul Krapf,

Rosemary Sangeleer, Ann Hinkson, Ruth Williams, Joe Langley (above), Bob Hinkson, Charles Eyler, Bill Hudson, Calvin Riddick, Jim Arnott, Dee Dee Sass, Sharon Carrier, Bill Miller, & Tim Pearce.

## Profile of Frances S. Conville National Secretary of LPA Inc.

Frances S. Conville, was born on September 9, 1915, in Childersburg, Alabama to the wonderful parents of Sara Estelle Duck and Elbert Francis Conville. Frances, stands 4 ft. 2 in. tall, at the present time. Having her full height at the age of 10 years old. At the age of three years old her family moved to Sylacauga, Alabama where she remained until later years. She attended Sylacauga Grammar and High School, the Daisy Haralson Business School graduating in 1935. She is a member of Grace Methodist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. While living in Sylacauga she was active in the First Methodist Church, holding many offices in different departments there. In 1947 she moved to Atlanta, Georgia and now resides in Decatur, Georgia.



As a child Frances grew up with eight brothers and sisters, all of normal height. She grew up in a normal atmosphere in her home, school, church and all surroundings. It was when she was nine years old that her parents knew she would never be of normal height. A doctor from the Childrens Clinic, Mayo Hospital, and a doctor from John Hopkins told her parents this. They said "Do not worry, it is what is up top side that counts". From then on, there was no worry about her life.

Frances has done extensive travel, having traveled in some 40 states of the U.S.A. and spent five years in the Orient (Okinawa) as a Federal Civil Service Civilian Employee with the US Air Force there. She is in her 21st year with Civil Service and as she has stated, "It is a fine position of any LPA with business office training".

In her early years of employment she did a varied number of jobs. First Secretary to the Buffalo Rock & 7-UP Distributing Co., Gift Wrapping in a department store, WPA worker, on a Beautification Project, a Library Project, Dry Cleaning work and florist work. In 1943 she began her Civil Service Work, being employed at the Coosa River Ordnance Depot, Anniston Ordnance Depot, Atlanta General Depot, Third US Army Headquarters, then to an overseas assignment, back to Atlanta, Ga. in 1957 to become Mrs. She was married in June of 1957, and maintained the Mrs. until the latter part of 1959, as she states, "things happen in the Best of Families". It happened to her, but her advice on marriage is excellent and each and every person should find a mate. It is the foundation of a most inspiring life. She obtained her maiden name and that is what she goes by now. But there is Happiness for each of us in this work, married or single.

It was November 1960 that Frances made her first LPA Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. It was here Billy Barty, President of LPA, appointed her as District Director of District 4. She has attended all National Conventions since, many District Meetings in other districts, and an eastern meeting in Washington D.C.. She has also held the Editor slot in the National LPA Newsletter for 1 year. This past Convention she was elected to the post of National Secretary. She is also Asst. Penny Pemble on the Newspaper Staff at the present time. Frances, as many of you know her by Fran, has had some two hundred and fifty LPA in her home since 1960.





The group of little people above belong to the North Carolina Chapter and more activity is being planned by this group in the future. All of them will be in Asheville, N. C., to welcome all little people to the National Convention.



The above group picture taken at our Fourth National Convention, October 28th through November 1st, 1962 at the famous Jack Tar Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N. C. NEXT YEARS NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT THE KIRKWOOD HOTEL, DES MOINES, IOWA, JULY 28, 29, 30, 31 and Aug. 1, 1963. Plan now to attend. It will be another blast, under the capable supervision of Mr. Charles Bedow.





From left to right: Back Row: Herman Hoil, Miss Ann Asper, Dr. Bailey, Mrs. Joan Hoil, Cy Agoss, Miss Ronnie Starr, Harry Waxler, Blye DeLair, Dominic DiCeglie, Richard Heyman, Robert Hill, Allan Pickard, Frank Lentini, Charles Secor, Walter Cryderman, Herman Lefkoff.

Second Row: Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, James Mastrangelo, George Baehm, III, Peter Valuckas, Michael Valuckas, Mrs. Theresa Goldstein, Philip Hochstadt, Miss Frieda Betsky, Mrs. Ann DiCeglie, Miss Sherry Hochstadt, Miss Frances McDuffee, Miss Louise Moore, Miss Dolores Dunbar, Miss Katherine Gordon, Miss Marney Greenstein, Miss Pat Beirness, Mrs. Barbara Hill (holding Robert Hill, Jr.)

Front Row sitting: Miss Helen Uffner, Stanley Wermes, Miss Janet Wyburn, Miss Joilene Wetherall, Mrs. Emma Lentini, Miss Shirley Lentini, Miss Pat Snowberger, Miss Linda Pomeroy, Scotty Bunce, Charles Pedersen.



"Wanna play ball?"

David Joseph Steinberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Steinberg, Richmond Hill, New York, seems to be shyly asking to play a game of catch. However, athletics isn't the only sport for the Steinberg's four year old adopted son. The initially shy fellow likes music, dancing, and after a few minutes of sizing everyone up, enjoys being with people.

Naturally the Steinberg's are proud, especially Dad. Uniquely enough, David's February 12 birthday is the same as his father's. Dave was born Feb. 12, 1965, weighs 21 pounds and is 25-1/2 inches tall. He joined the Steinberg family on Sept. 25, 1969.



DISTRICT 2



Radiating a bit of Christmas joy that was everywhere during the Holidays, members of Districts 2 and 3 gathered in Moorestown, N.J., to share the Yuletide spirit with one another. They included (row one) Mrs. Ann Purcell, Miss Sherry Hochstadt, Miss Patricia Snowberger,

Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, Miss Janet Wyburn, Miss Dee Dee Sass, Miss Sharon Carrier, and Bill Hudson.

(Row two) Stanley Wermes, Joe Purcell, Richard Heyman, Bob Spector, George Baehm, III, Miss Helen Uffner, Frieda Betsky, Phil Hochstadt and Paul and James Mastrangelo.

(Row three) Miss Ronny Starr, Harry Waxler, Bill Miller, J. Arnot, Keith Connolly, Charles Eyler, Jr., Herman Lefkoff, Cy Agoss, Tim Pierce.



Back row, Left to right: Max Mulberg, Robin Gregory, Jack Cusumano, Miss Helen Uffner, Herman Lefkoff, Cy Agoss, Mrs. Susan Soto, George Baehm, III, Miss Janet Wyburn. Second row: Charles Peterson, Miss Donna Grady, Bryant Martin, Miss Frances McDuffee. Front row: James Mastrangelo, Miss Noreen Graber, Richard Heyman, Miss Sherry Hochstadt, Bart Cusumano, Anthony Cusumano, Craig Tilkin, Miss Elizabeth Carroll, Joseph Steinberg, Phil Hochstadt, Miss Frieda Betsky, Harry Waxler, Joe Steinberg, Mrs. Laura Steinberg, Mrs. Tena Baehm, III, Stanley Wermes.

On March 22, the group met at Miss Helen Rossetini's home in Tenafly, N.J.

Mrss Donna Grady, Drexel Hills, Pa., will host the district's final meeting before the big ranch weekend.

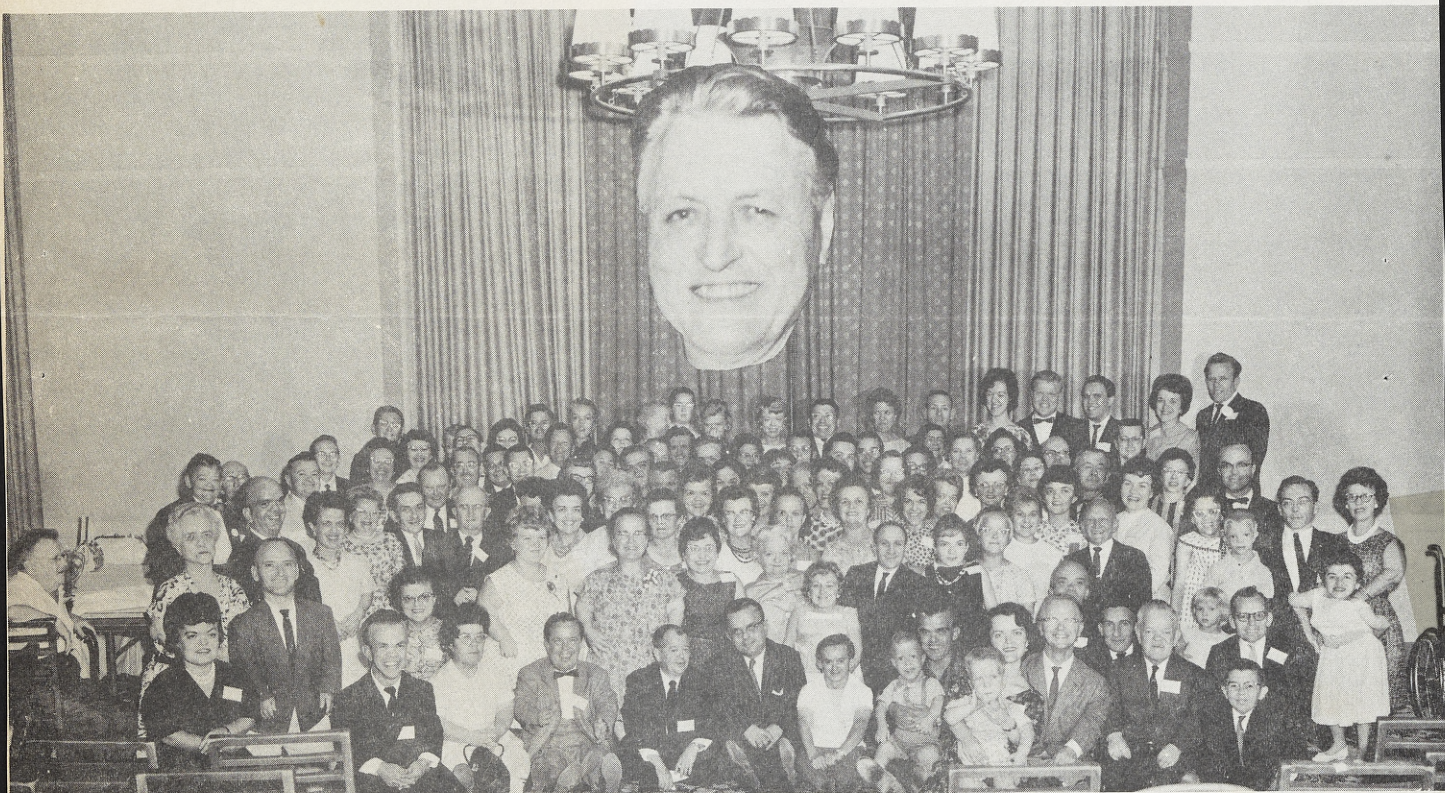




The above picture was taken at our Fourth National Convention in front of Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N. C. Left to right: Dan Turner, Honorable Governor Terry Sanford, Jim Liles and Bill Albaugh.

## TRIBUTE TO WARREN "DOC" BAYLEY BY MARY SMITH

A dear friend of the Little People of America has passed away. Mr. Warren "Doc" Bayley was indeed a doctor to our organization. Through his kindness and generosity we were able to springboard the L.P.A. In 1960 and 1961 the Little People of America held their National Conventions at the Hacienda Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Under his position of President of the Hacienda, the L.P.A. members were able to meet and organize. His generosity was expressed by one member who spent six dollars for one week. His name will long be remembered by the L.P.A. and to him we would like to dedicate this issue of the National Newsletter. May we, as a National Organization, express our sincerest feelings, and his wife, Mrs. Judith Bayley, our warmest thoughts.



1960-1961 HACIENDA CONVENTIONS



•Back Row 1 to r: Anthony Cusumano, Phil Hochstodt, Frieda Betsky, Bob Rigert, Richard Heyman, Miss Barbara Mangam, Jack Cusumano, George Baehm III, Michael Roche, Mrs. Tena Baehm III, Maura Sullivan, Harold Schulman, Stanley Wermes.  
•Front Row: Herb Williamson, Miss Janet Wyburn, Miss Frances McDuffee, Mrs. Sherry Heyman, Helen Rossetini, Harris Brainin, Mrs. Cathy Roche, Carol Roche, Pat Schulman, Alice Schulman, Bart Cusumano.

### DISTRICT 2



### MAN TALK

Director George Baeham was caught by the camera's eye filling in new member Charles Pedersen on all the advantages of LPA, at the Dist.'s meeting at Bear Mountain, Sept. 7. Director



"The greatest moment of my life", stated Kenneth Brown. Kenny is the first Negro to attend a National Convention of the Little People of America. He is 24 years old and is employed as a Social Worker in Camden, N.J. Also attending their first convention were Marshall and Bobby Jacobs. They are of Indian origin and members of the Cherokee Tribe. Both reside in Philadelphia, Pa., and Marshall is employed as a mechanic. 17 year old Claudia Bishop of Douglasville, Ga., said, "this has been the greatest experience of my life". She said she also has come to realize the importance of education. We would like to hear more from new members and their findings.





# NEWSLETTER

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC.

"Think Big"

VOLUME 5 NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1966



**Be Our Valentine**

## Little People Of America Begins 9th Year District Chairmen Report Activities

Nine years ago the Little People of America became a thought. After the first National Convention in 1957 it became a reality. Several years later it became a working organization.

One of the pleasures of this Newsletter is reporting the activities of the Districts. Sometimes the Newsletter may be a little late but it is important to hear how active we are as an organization.

It is almost a month since the first of the year but most districts held New Year celebrations. Ann Cleary, District 1-2 Chairman reports that among the 20 people that attended their New Years Eve Party were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones and Vito Zella of District 5, and Mary and Bob Spector of District 3.

Congratulations are in order to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schulman. She is the former Patricia Londregan. Also Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hill, she is the former Barbara Santucci.

(Continued Page 2)



DISTRICTS 5-6 REGIONAL MEETING - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



DISTRICT FIVE FALL REGIONAL

Youngstown, Ohio  
November 1974



## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

Frances Long reports that all in District 4 plan to attend the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee, on the first weekend in April. All who are interested in attending should notify Pete and Lorene Johnston.

Frances sent an article published in the "Eagle" of the Tucker Federal Savings & Loan Association in Tucker, Georgia. It gave some interesting sides of Pete and Lorene Johnston's life. Thanks to Pete and Lorene for helping to let others know about LPA. The following is a portion of the article.



Pete and Lorene Johnston of Norcross, who are slightly more than four feet tall, are living happily as husband and wife in two worlds — a small one and a normal one.

The Johnstons move readily in the normal world. Pete, who is 4½ feet tall and weighs 130 pounds, is office manager of the Atlanta Service Warehouse in Atlanta. Lorene, who is 4 feet 2 inches, weighs 83 pounds and wears dainty 1½ size high heel shoes she orders from Boston, keeps busy tidying their pretty suburban home on the Norcross-Tucker road, cooking and washing, raising flowers, and serving as secretary of Little People of America, District 4.

In the big world Pete, 34, and Lorene, 35, are sports fans, attend the Atlanta Braves baseball games, and had season tickets to the Falcon football games.

Pete grew up on a tobacco, peanut

and cotton farm near Tifton, Georgia, with five large-size brothers and two sisters. At the Tift County High School he got a taste for sports, playing quarterback on the B football team.

"As quarterback I could hand the ball to someone else and let him run," he said. "I was a pinch hitter on the baseball team."

The Johnston home is normally furnished. Mrs. Johnston steps up on a stool to reach her sink and washing machine. Their clothes racks are lowered.

Pete wears a 16½ inch shirt in the color with 17 inch sleeves, a number 5 shoe, and usually has regular-size suits or pants altered. Mrs. Johnson has her clothes tailored. Pete has no trouble driving. His Chevrolet has 12-inch extensions on the brake and accelerator.

Mrs. Johnston, who has four brothers and a sister of normal size, grew up in Morristown, Tennessee, graduated from high school, served as receptionist for a decorating company seven years.

One day in 1962 she came to Atlanta to attend a Little People's convention and got to talking to Pete Johnston at the airport. Romance blossomed and they were married in Morristown in 1963.



Recently gathered were these LPA members from District Four. Left to right, front row: Mickey Gilmer, Dennis Binion, Frances Binion, Rachael Perry, Tommy Mathews, and Jala Russell. Second row: Pat Gilmer, Sylvia Womble, Billy Sutton, Bobby Jean McDonald.



District 4 members meeting June 9.



District 4 members meeting June 9.



DISTRICT 4

District 3

## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

Albert Boecker and Roy Bridges keep me pretty well posted on the activities of District 4. They mentioned that they had 16 members attending their Christmas party at Pete and Lorene Johnstons home in Norcross, Georgia. The house was all decked out with Christmas decorations and the food was delicious. Later in the evening some of their "big friends" dropped in to visit and join in the fun.

Roy reports that our Romeo of LPA "Frank Duckworth" said he had a wonderful weeks vacation in Nassau. He says he went alone but, knowing him, we doubt if he was alone very long. Well Frank, we are all very



District 4





SECOND ANNUAL SHORT STATURE SYMPOSIUM  
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL  
APRIL 7, 1973



DISTRICT 6



KINGS AND QUEENS ELECTED-Elected by popular vote were, above left to right, King Lee Wright, Queen Anna Dixon, Teen Queen Claudia Bishop, Teen King Andre Boursse, Princess Sandra Kitchens and Prince James Gildersleeve.



Mr. & Mrs. Leona Nerden, daughter Virginia 4, Ricky their pet, Steven age 9.



This picture represents the men and women that direct the Organization of The Little People of America. Help them by cooperating in every possible way, i.e., paying your membership dues, being active in your own District, and promoting our Organization. Back row left to right: The late Lloyd King, Bill Albaugh, V.P. Bob Brower, Clint Lester, President Dan Turner. Second row from back left to right: Jim Liles, Exec. Sec., Jerry Marin, Phyllis Miller, Lee Kitchens, Frances Conville, and Marjorie Bourassa: Front row left to right: Jerry Austin, Marian Van Harken, Tena Anderson, Grace Foster, Gus Couretas, and Launa Kinzell.





DISTRICT 6



DISTRICT 6



Those attending District 6's February regional at the Hillside Holiday Inn included: (row 1-sitting) Mike Dreyer; David and Karen Buterbaugh; Sandy and Kevin McGowan; Nancy Wickle, Mike Hagan; Mike and Robert Ahrens and Paul Dreyer. (row 2-kneeling) Gerald Rasa; Mary McGrath and Lois Cullen. (row 3-sitting) Susan Benson; Sarah Goenne; Barbara Christ-offerson, Miss Diane; Lydia Thomas; Rosanne Becker; JoAnn Bayer; Mrs. Nancy Buterbaugh; Mrs. Eileen Hagan and Jill; Diane Rimar; Mrs. Harriet Stickney and Jim Ball. (row 4) Bob Brinker; Barbara DeRoo; Marilyn Zellman; Laura Schilismann; Gary Friedkin; Frank; Joe Edelman; Mrs. Jackie McGarrahan; Charlie McGarrahan; "Skip" and Steve Dreyer. (row 5-standing) Frank Dreyer; Donna Kuncke; Mrs. Betty Ahrens, Elaine McGowen; Susan Dreyer; Mary Beth McGowen; and Mrs. Barbara Dreyer.

District 6 would like to announce the recent marriage on Nov. 11th of Eileen Shanahan (alias the blond-bomb-shell) to Jim Hagan. As you can see she was a beautiful bride and Jim was a very happy bridegroom.



Lee Ann happily announces her own arrival in the home of Bob and Janet Wolworth, of District 6. Lee Ann was four years old in December.



DISTRICTS 5-6 REGIONAL MEETING - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



DISTRICT 6

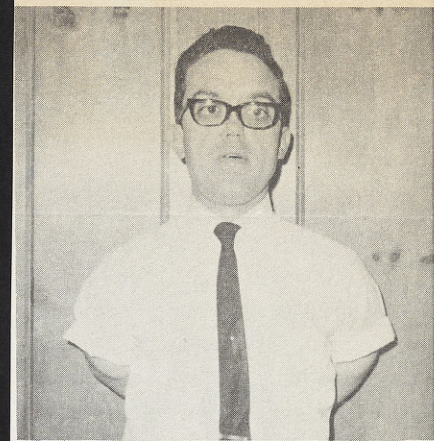
Row 1 (l-r): Dwayne and Donna Wiseman, Diane Horvat, Karen Buterbaugh, Paul Dreyer, Mike Hagan, Mike Ahrens and David Buterbaugh. Row 2 (l-r): Jerry Wiseman, Bobby Ahrens, Gerald Rasa, Bob and Jan Wolworth, Doug Downen, Joey Newhouser and Sally Bedow. Row 3 (l-r): Pam Prentice, Barbara Lackey, Rachel Heald, Mary Totars, Mrs. Jean Michaels, Rosanne Becker and Charles Bedow. Row 4 (l-r): Albert Horvat, Mrs. Jerry Wiseman, Mrs. Betty Ahrens, Donna Michaels, Barbara and Ed Airing, Gary Friedkin, Lydia Thomas, Marcia Moore, Nancy Buterbaugh, Mrs. Penny Downen, Diane Rimar, Ruth Hoog and Lois Ellingson. Row 5 (l-r): Bill Ahrens, Joe Edelman, Hank Anderson, Ed Buterbaugh, Dennis Maier, Lee Crowel, Vito Zella, Paul Dolinajec, Jill and Jim Hagan, Bruce Merrill, Eileen Hagan and Frank Dreyer.





Majorie Alice Bourassa - Maurice Sheridan Alden were united in marriage on October 12, 1963, at the Saint Theresa's Catholic Church, Phoenix, Arizona.

## MEET "MR. VICE-PRESIDENT"



Answering a query about the membership in LPA, Vice-President Paul Jones, Mayfield Village, Ohio, outlined his plans at a recent meeting, for doubling the national membership by the end of 1969.

The 4'5" Vice-Presy is 31, and has been an employee for API Instruments Company for over 10 years. Currently he is a Supervisor in the Inventory Control department. He and his wife Eleanor have one daughter, 19 month old.



District 5 members in Defiance, Ohio.



Do you recognize you. This is the group picture that was taken in Las Vegas at our Third National Convention in 1961. Will you be in this picture this year? We all hope so.



DISTRICT 5



## HELLO WORLD!!!

Beaming a smile that would melt the sternest frown from any father, Miss Melissa Faith Jones poses happily for the camera. The daughter of Vice-Pres. and Mrs. Paul Jones, Melissa was adopted in August. The 15 month old baby has light brown hair, hazel-brown eyes, and according to her mother, walks and chatters constantly.



Those attending were: (Row one, l-r) Miss Mary Jo Zwickl, Miss Barbara Lackey, Miss Lydia Thomas, Mrs. Barbara Morris, Miss Donna Hess and Mrs. Betty Frech. (Second row), Miss Sara Goene, Miss Diane Rimar, Gary Friedkin, Miss Ronnie Starr, Brian Morris, Miss Hazel Lathrup, Lee Crowel and Ralph Frech. (Row three), Joe Heideman, Al P... Vita Zella, Mike Ryan, Gerald Pasa, George Miles, and David Becker.



Attending a district 5 meeting in March at the home of Carolyn Von Lehmden are, left to right, Marge Stankiewicz, Ronnie White, Hank Stankiewicz, Marcia Moore, Ed and Barbara Aring, Carolyn, Ellie Jones, John Norman and Paul Jones. In front are Henry and William Stankiewicz.



District 5 members in Defiance, Ohio.



# DISTRICT 7



Back row: Maxine Collette, Kick Estes, Sam Thomas, Mary Lou Stevens, Terry Wynn, Christina Rinehart. Third row: Ronnie Clark, Kathy Clark, Keith McCall, Dickie Wright, Mike Jones, Cleveland Arnold, Steve George, John and Lahoma Whorton. Second row: Kay Chisholm, Rena McCall, Mary M. O'Neill, Essie and Lessie Lackey. Front row: Frankie Prinns, Foy Jones, Linda Whorton, Jonnie Whorton, Sharon Whorton, Edith Arnold, Pauline Wommach, Irlene Medearis.



# DISTRICT 7



Mrs. Foy Jones, District 7's retiring director (second from the right), pauses to autograph a program for several of the members attending the meeting in Topeka recently. The members are: (l-r) Charles Fletcher, Burr Billingsley, Debbie Wilburn, Millie Scrivner, Mrs. Jones, and Mary Lou Stevens.



Pictured above are the LPA members, friends, and guests attending the recent District Seven weekend meeting, in Topeka, during the weekend of March 30-31st.



Those attending included: (Row one, l-r), Lee Ann Wolworth, Dave and Karen Buterbaugh, Dawn Green, Jill and Mike Hagan. (Row two), Miss Sarah Goene, Miss Rosanne Becker, Miss Bonnie Norton, Miss Lydia Thomas, Mrs. Audrey Green, George Green. (Third row), Bob and Jan Wolworth, Jim and Eileen Hagan, Ed and Nancy Buterbaugh, Gerald Rasa and Paul Dolinajec.

Further north, Nancy and Ed Buterbaugh hosted the Oct. 18 meeting at their Elgin, Ill., home. Plans were discussed for a spring regional meeting in the northern Illinois area, and for a membership drive during the winter. Phase one of the drive was conducted Nov. 1 when several members met with new prospects and members in the Madison, Wisc. area.



# DISTRICT SEVEN APRIL MEETING OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

BACK ROW: Foy Jones, Eleanor Baker, Irlene Medearis, Daisy Stoll, Ann Cromwell Maxine Collett, Ruth Ann Yates, Elaine Sandlin, Donna Sturm, Sanford Matthews, Kay Chisolm, Mary Lou Matthews, Virginia Netherton. Middle: Carson Atkins, Danny Blaine, George Cromwell,

Robert Hall, Steve George, Mike Jones, Keith McCall. Front Row: Kathy Clark, Lenny Clark (on lap), Ronnie Clark, Brenda Foreman, Marcella Wells, Janna Townsend, Lee Wright, Mrs. Lee Wright, Rena McCall, Matthew Johnson (not pictured).



Gus J. Couretas





ANN and GEORGE CROMWELL

Now that happy little groom that you see in the picture is your favorite friend and mine, George Cromwell and his pretty bride, Ann Rud-dell, who were married on March 4th. Well, Ann, if you can get George down from that cloud he says he is still on, we want to congratulate you both.

#### M.A. Degrees



#### TWO MEMBERS HONORED

Two young members of LPA received their Master of Arts degrees this spring in ceremonies at their schools. Roberta Hengy, Shreveport, La., received her M.A. in Special Education and Gerald Rasa, Higginsville, Mo., earned his M.A. majoring in Speech, with emphasis on Mass Media.

#### DISTRICT EIGHT

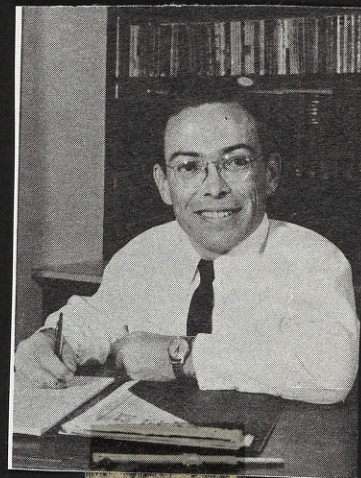


Those attending the District 8 meeting in Houston, Tex., recently were: (sitting, left to right), Becky Brown, Dana Garrison, Eric Erley and Lee Picard. Row 2-Dale Picard, Jerry Bengel, Lloyd Arnold, Sandy Kitchens, Dorcy Vincent, Lou Barras, Linda Camp and Retha Gillentine. Row 3-Mary Beth Eley, Danny Blain, Burre Billingsley, Bill and Betty Howe, George and Ann Cromwell, Frances Marshall, Carolyn Gillentine, Dorma Snow, Mickey Estrada, Vicky Arboneaux, Tim Deatherage and Ben Gillentine. Row 4-Dennis Camp, Paul Moseley, Garry and Melinda Smith, Selma Burman, Lucille Picard, Mary Lois Jeffereys, John and Diane Newsome.



LAFAYETTE DISTRICT 8 MEETING - SEPTEMBER 4-7, 1970

(Front Row - l. to r.) Dorcy Lane Vincent, Jeff Davis, Margie Murphy, Paul Mosley, Diana Fontenot, Elaine McCoy, Ann Process, Vicky Arboneaux, Sandy Morris. (Second Row - l. to r.) Elinor Baker, Curtis Murphy, Tom Berry, Roberta Berry, Hazel Jean Ford, Nancy Kelley, Grace Jarreau, Mary Beth Eley, Diane Newsom. (Third Row - l. to r.) Ual Bonsall, Lee Picard, Dale Picard holding Allen Picard, George Cromwell, Otho Williams, Ann Cromwell, Elaine Sandlin, Danny Blain, John Newsom.



#### NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8

Plans are about complete for the June 1 district meeting in Fort Worth, hosted by the Dal-Worth Metropolitan Area Chapter, reports Oliver Pitts. Activities include a skit by the teens attending and election of district director.



Shown above are the new officers of the Dal-Worth Metropolitan Area Chapter. Left to right, they are George Cromwell, president, Ann Cromwell, treasurer, Nancy Kelly, secretary, and Melinda Barker, vice-president.



#### DISTRICT FIVE FALL REGIONAL TROY, MICHIGAN

ROW 1 — Walter Menning, Jerry Couretas, Marty Klebba, Tab Burton, Gracie Oliver, Pat Bilon, Annis Arthur, Lydia Thomas, Phyllis Penton, & Jonathan Hill; Row 2 — Theresa Meersman, Louise Wolfe, Lucietta Coia, Mary and Gerald Rasa, Maria Colsante, Linda Lyn-gaas, Brian and Barbara Mooris, Barbara and Ed Aring;

Row 3 — Gus and Mary Couretas, Jackie McGarrahan, Vito Zella, Butch Carlisle, Mary Jo Zwickl, Judy Vasher, Richard LaRussa, Janet Clark, Ed Darmstadt; Row 4 — Paul Christensen, Peggy Gibbons, Eileen and Jim Hagen, Carol Coldsnow, Ron Sova, Mary Totaro, Diane Rimar, Lois and Paul Dolinjec, Debbie Ross.



# DISTRICT NINE



On January 15th, these hardy people braved 20 degree below zero weather for a meeting at Barbara Christofferson's home. The group included (standing) Richard Walters, Joyce Engstrom, Judy Farwell, Barbara Christofferson and Doris Canaan. (Sitting) Dave Eckerman, Marilyn Zellman, Jill Hanel, Harold Price and Janet Johnson.

District 9 members, as well as neighboring District 6 and District 7 members, are invited to attend the May 5-7 District meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. Miss Nancy Rowell will be the hostess.



District 8 meeting in Fort Worth, Texas



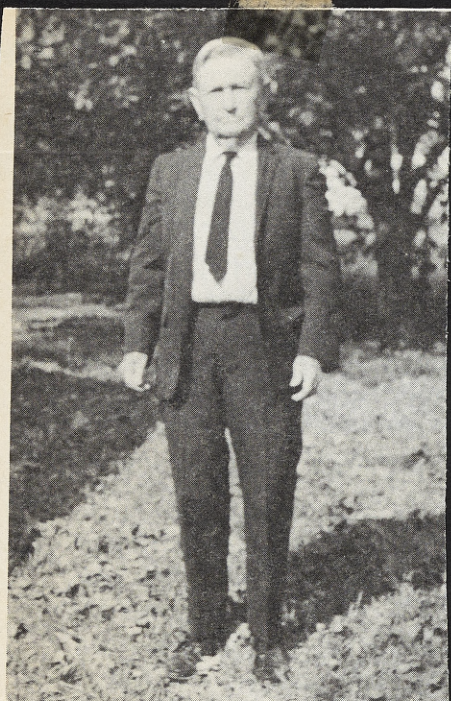
JACKIE ROBSON

## DISTRICT 8



BACK ROW, standing, left to right: Joe Roberson, Joe Geib, Tim Deatherage, Danny Blain, Dale Picard, James Owens, Alan Kitchens, Garry Smith, Chuck Cross, John Ritchie (holding daughter Johnette) and Bill Rowan. SECOND ROW,

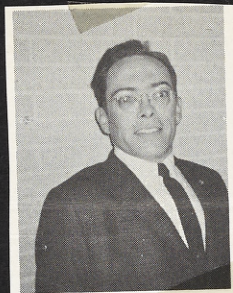
standing: George Cromwell, Mickey Estrada, Sandy Morris, Nina Flores, Judy Holmes, Elaine Sandlin (MISS MINI 69-70), Mary Kitchens, Nancy Kelley, Marilyn Roberts, Lee Picard, Elinor Baker, Marie Seale, Melinda Smith, L. G. Seale, Lee Kitchens, Ann Cromwell, Norman White, Roberta Hengy, Peggy Cross. FRONT ROW, sitting: Clay Cross, Sandra Kitchens, Susie Barnes, Becky Brown and Mary Ellen McSpedden.



Giving a striking pose at his Austin, Texas home, one of LPA's oldest members, John Clifton, will be 80 years old this Christmas, Dec. 25. Standing 4'6" tall, John is an active worker for the organization throughout the Austin area and the United States.



Many LPA friends attended the wedding of Kathy Winton and Ronnie Clark, above, in Choctaw, Okla., on May 24.



LEE KITCHENS



LEE KITCHENS



Looking every bit like a queen, Miss Sandy Morris, Fort Worth, Texas, was chosen as Miss Mini-Southwest for 1968 at District 8's district meeting November 16-17 in Houston. The pretty Miss Morris is a freshman at North Richland Junior High School where art is a favorite subject. In addition, painting and photography are favorite hobbies. An enthusiastic student, Miss Morris is currently serving her third year as an office assistant at her school. She has been a member of LPA for almost two years.



District 8 meeting in Fort Worth, Texas



1968

MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

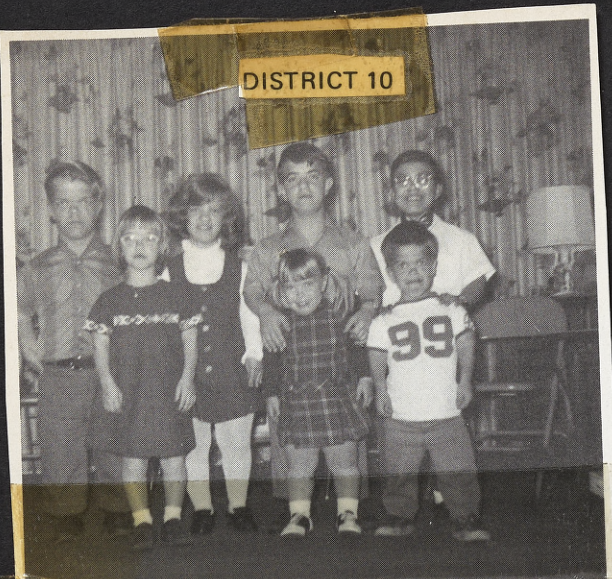
HAPPY NEW YEAR

LEE MARY ALAN SANDRA  
KITCHENS



Mr. and Mrs. Brian Morris are shown above at their wedding on Feb. 4. They live in Oak Park, Michigan, where both work in an accounting office. Brian will soon enter Wayne State University where he will work towards a C.P.A. degree. She is the former Barbara Ann Brenner.





Row 1 (l-r): Virginia Nerden, Pam Garrison, and Jack Hitt. Row 2 (l-r): Steve Nerden, Marsha Brennan, David Solo and Tom Lopez.



Shown above are a group of Dist. 10 residents of New Mexico at a recent meeting. L. to r., they are Thelma Culbertson, Kendra Wall, Virginia Cowardin, Mazzie Lester, and in front, Teddie Joe Cline.



### DISTRICT TEN PHOENIX CHAPTER MEETING

May 1973



Shannon Louise Muehlfeit

LPA



Above are members attending the District 9 Memorial Day meeting in Salem, S.D., shown l. to r. Front row, Louise Beck, Rachel Heald, Jill Bedow, Charles Bedow, & Marvin Bly. Back row, Veronica Stimple holding Patty, Roy Carlson, Wanda Carlson, Sally Bedow, Doris Canaan, & Mathilda Rejsek. Not pictured, Mr. & Mrs. Oden Bly, Jesse Stimple, & William Canaan.



### PHOENIX CHAPTER

•Row 1: Bob Brower, Eddie Diaz, Monica Freehill, Barbie Taylor, Anita Clapp, Mark Trombino, Peggy Sue Hughes, Elizabeth Jorgenson, Jill Taylor, Chuck Brower.

•Row 2: Danny Taylor, Clarence Hughes, Jeanie Hughes, Marsha Kirkman, Donna Taylor.

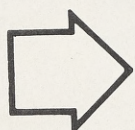
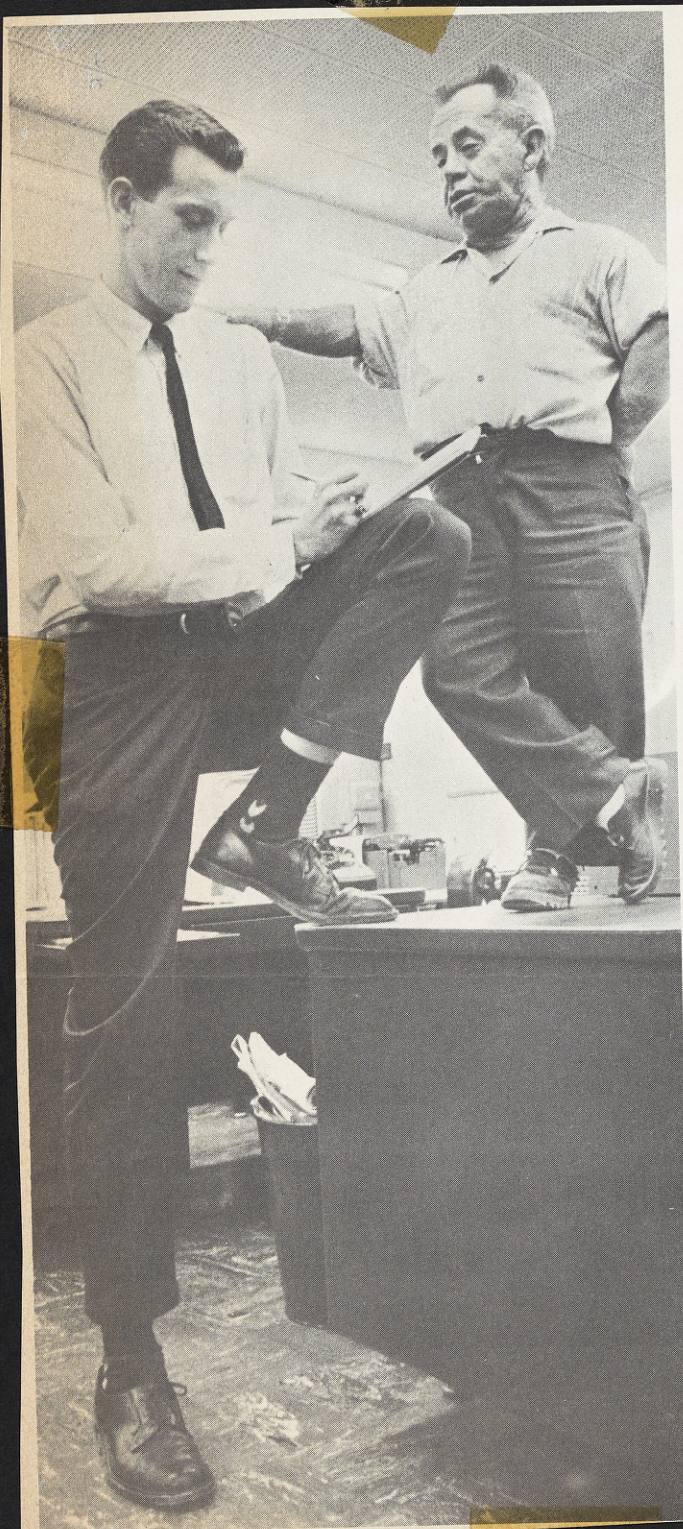
•Row 3: Gary Hicks, L.H. Hicks, David Willer, Jayne Sutherland, Henry Adams, Marlene Adams, Manuel Delci, Marcella Brower.

•Row 4: Lupe Delci, Mabel Phillips, Helen Hicks, Joy Clapp, Janet Hicks, Tom Jorgenson, Frank Jorgenson, Beverly Jorgenson, Betsy Trombino, Furl Waddell, Rebecca Sutherland.

### DISTRICT 9



Enjoying the Indian Summer in Iowa, these Dist. 9 members met Oct. 20th to discuss plans for the LPA's 1969 Convention in Minneapolis, Minn. They are (l-r, row one) Bob Fowler, Wanda and Roy Carlson, Nancy Pauley, Barbara Osburn, Tommy Triggers, Mrs. Karen Triggers, Tommy Hagermann, and Jill and Sally Bedow. (Row two) George Osburn, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hagermann, Benny Triggers and Charles Bedow.



Earl Warr, the 4 foot, 6 inch district organizer of the Little People of America, had to stretch a point to get the ear of towering Citizen reporter Dale Wittner, who stands 6 feet, 6 inches. The abbreviated Warr was in Tucson trying to locate other little people to join the national organization and organize a local club.



## DEBUT

Sally and Chuck Bedow have had so many requests for pictures of the newest addition to their family, they felt it would be simplest to let him make his debut in the newsletter.



John Charles "Jack" Bedow was born on September 16, 1971. He has flashy red hair and blue eyes and is a replica of his sister Jill.



Bowling winners at the DISTRICT 9 meeting, October 8-10, held in Owatonna, Minn. were:

(L-R) Bob Fowler, Vern Geis, Kathy Ray and Joyce Engstrom.

Miss Jill Bedow, seven year old from District 9, was featured in the Owatonna Dance Theatre's recital with a solo to the tune of "Don't Forget about Pluto". The recital theme was "A Dance Through Outer Space".

(Pluto is the "smallest" planet in orbit around the sun.)



Those pictured attending the meeting are (1-r, row one), Sally and Jill Bedow, Gus and Jerry Couretas, Gingy Walsh, Allen Gudrich, Mary Couretas and Fran Sauser. (row two) Rachel Heald, Marilyn Zellman, Barbara

Osborne, Marvin Bly, Dave Eckerman, Ricky Raski, Roy Carlson, Kathy D'Avia, and Vern and Bunny Geis. (third row) Doris Canaan, Joyce Domarus, Barbara Christofferson, Wilma and Emil Kranzler Bob Fowler, Wanda Carlson, and Dale Hardie.



Answering a member's question, LPA's newly-elected president, Charles Bedow is a dynamic, energetic man, who has the intense desire to develop LPA into an organization that can be helpful to little people throughout the country. President Bedow is a 4'6", 34 year-old dwarf from Owatonna, Minn. Employed by the Federated Mutual Insurance Company, the new prexy is married, and has one daughter. During his career with LPA, he has served as District Director, the Nat'l Treasurer, and the Vice-President.



## "Christmas Angels"

These two gals enchanted everyone at this summer's national convention in Minneapolis, but their names eluded the Editor's memory in the Aug.-Sept. issue. The golden haired Miss on the left is Miss Susanna Jane Casey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Casey, St. Paul. The other blond haired beauty is Miss Jill Bedow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bedow, Owatonna, Minn. Not only are they both Dist. 9 members and very close "look-a-likes," but also they're less than one month apart in age.



CLARENCE HUGHES STANDS IN TUNNEL  
Employers like his four-foot height—(AP)

## He Toils Where Others Can't

PHOENIX (AP) — "Where's Clarence Hughes?" asked the newcomer.

"Down there," replied an employee of Northern Contracting Co., pointing at the ditch which appeared empty except for a storm drain being put into place.

"Down where?"

"He's inside the pipe."

Sure enough, Clarence Hughes, barely tall enough to bump his head on the 48-inch storm drain, emerged, hard hat slightly askew.

While more burley workers grunt and curse as they squeeze their way into the pipes to cement the inner seams, Hughes, a four-footer, doesn't even stoop.

Hughes, 44, has been a construction worker for 13 years and specializes in "banding," sealing inside seams on cement pipes. After the pipe is laid and the flanges butted together, Hughes goes inside to put in a smooth cement seal.

Hughes, who says he sometimes works 10 construction jobs a year, also is in demand for other tight jobs. When holes were being drilled to support a new 40-floor building here, Hughes was the fellow who was lowered into them to work.

Hughes was born to normal-size parents and has two brothers and two sisters, also normal size.

His somewhat unique ability is a source of humor to his fellow construction workers. "We really help each other out. They help me a lot and I help them whenever I can," he says.

He also claims never to have been stuck in a pipe or hole.

"But 18 inches is as far as I go. After that I back out," he says.

Hughes met his 3-foot-10 wife, Jeanie, at a national midget convention. They've been married eight years and have a normal, 5-year-old daughter.

"She's already as tall as I am," he says. "She's gonna be six feet when she grows up—at least."



# 'Little People' to meet in Portland July 27

PORTLAND (AP) — The 12th annual Little People of America convention is scheduled to begin here July 27 with the five-day program expected to attract some 300 persons no more than 4 feet 10 inches tall.

Bill Barty, a Hollywood cinematographer, started the organization with 20 members in 1957. Membership now totals more than 1,200.



DISTRICT II MEETING

DISTRICT 11



These were only a few of the more than 80 people attending the District 11 meeting Oct. 11, at the Tyee Motor Inn, in Olympia, Washington. Left to right, (row 1) they included: Jimmy Evans, Darin Lee, Nancy Benjamin, Karel and Peter Reckendorf, BJ, David and Randy Bradford, Sheryl Antonson, and David and Randy Simmons. (Second Row) Barbara Corbin, Frieda Groeneveld, Judy Lee, Kathie Hargas, Nancy Evans, Linda Berg, Gloria Van Loo, and Kayla Kuhlman. (Third Row) Angie Bell, Henry Street, Mardi Van Loo, Arlene Vinceletti, Mary Carr, Donna Perfetti, Adeline Malecki, Gladys Simmons, Mary Barta, Alice DeSart and Ferne Vining. (Fourth Row) Jim Malecki, Ida Brooks, Clark Belangy, Larry Carr, Richard McLeod, Dan Hamilton, Dan Engstrom, Wally Brooks and Joe Alexander. (Back Row) Susan Roethle, Corky Hubert, Marie Albaugh, Bill Albaugh, Bob Hubof, and Martha Alexander.

Naturally the number one item in the "great Pacific Northwest" region is the 1970 National Convention next July. Committees have been formed for the many tasks, and the majority of the activities have been finalized. The January edition of LPA NEWS will feature all of the activities for the convention, but just to give you a quick look at just one event—How about a cruise across Puget Sound to Squaxin Island, a baked salmon barbecue picnic, and perhaps even a special program by the Indians? This, along with the other plans, sounds too good to miss!

DISTRICT 11



Even the Spring snow storm didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the District 11 members attending the April 11-12 meeting in Coeur d'Alene. They included (front row, l-r): Nancy Evans, LPC, Judy Lee, Louise Daly, Adeline Malecki, Tommy Romans, Sandra Howard, Doyle Harris, Darin Lee, Beth Knapp, Linda Berg, LPC, and Barbara Corbin. Row 2 (l-r): Chuck Gingrich, Jim Malecki, Joe and Martha Alexander, Susan Roethle, Penny Pemble, Arlene Vinceletti, Gladys Simmons, Harold Erdman, Bob Hubof, Donna Perfetti, Frieda Groeneveld, Richard McLeod, Chip Woodyard and Kathie Hargas.



This happy couple is Mr. and Mrs. Peter Valuckas who were married Aug. 7 in Tacoma, Washington. The bride is the former Frieda Groeneveld.



DISTRICT 11



District 11 members at their April meeting in Goldendale, Washington.



Shown above are Dist. 11 members attending the luau at their April 12 & 13 meeting. Front row, 1. to r., Jim Malecki, Lonnie Bernard, Darin Lee, Sandra Howard, Doyle Harris, Bob Hubof, Dennie Ekle, & Joe Alexander. Second row, 1. to r., Adeline Malecki, Dan Ham-

ilton, Martha Alexander, Linda Berg, Frieda Groeneveld, Kathie Hargas, Barbara Corbin, & Judy Lee. Back row, 1. to r., Gladys Simmons, Dennis Lindquist, Linda Simpson, Clark Belangy, Angie Bell, Chip Woodyard, Ninotchka Larson, Grant Lindholm, Donna Perfetti, & Jill Ronning.



# 49½ Inches of Pure Spunk On Her Way to a Career

SAN DIEGO (AP) — As she hops out of her little car in her little girl dress, the 21-year-old student teacher draws looks of curiosity from school children.

Lois Gerage never stops to notice.

"If you show people it doesn't bother you, it won't bother them," she says of her height—4 feet, 1½ inches.

In June, Miss Gerage will receive a degree in fine arts and social science from San Diego State College. It will be another year before she wins her teaching credential.

As a dwarf born with achondroplasia in a family of normal-sized people, Lois learned early that hurdles always lay ahead.

The lively brunette recalls as a child in Pasadena, "I came home from school complaining that they always made me play the baby." She proudly says her mother treated her as an equal of her big brother and playmates.

Now, says Lois, "I've got the mouth and the courage to say what I feel. I'm me, and people accept me for me."

Two other coeds share a Mission Beach apartment with her, and their mutual friends are average-sized people.

But none is more energetic than Lois, who is active in social groups and an avid water skier, swimmer and volleyball player.

"Oh, I'm a monkey," she



**LOIS GERAGE IS NEARING HER AMBITION**

A life of hurdles for tiny student teacher—(AP)

smiles.

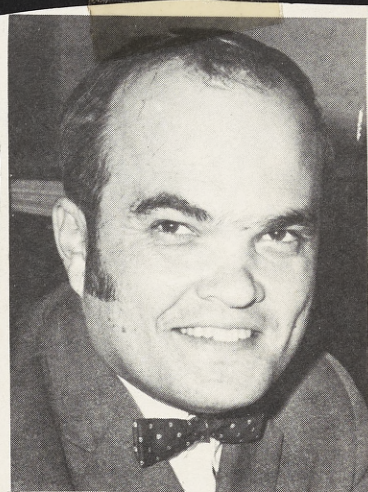
Her elementary school pupils know she's different, says

them on my side." Getting a real job as a teacher may be something else, she admits.

**SPECTOR, OSTROW,  
1965 LPA KING AND QUEEN**



Bob Spector of Wilmington, Del., and Eleanor Ostrow of Brooklyn, N.Y., were chosen as King and Queen of the 7th Annual Little People of America Convention. Virginia Geddes of Ventura, California, 1964 Queen, sent a telegram of congratulations. Two more deserving people couldn't have been chosen. The handsome Mr. Spector and the lovely Miss Ostrow will reign in glory for 1965-1966 as favorites of all LPA members. Bob Spector has a PhD. in Chemistry and works for DuPont and Miss Ostrow is a Secretary.



**Joe Alexander**



**A SMALL MINORITY VISITS CONCORD**

Mr. and Mrs. Neno Caelino and Mel Cohen of Pleasant Hill take part in a discussion at a district convention of the Little People of America in Concord. Caelino was chairman of the convention which had 50 dwarfs in attendance. Cohen is the president of Human Growth, Inc., a Pleasant Hill growth-research organization.

A group of fourteen enthusiastic LP's gathered over the Labor Day weekend for the first organizational meeting of Western Canada. It was held at the home of Linda Berg in Claresholm, Alberta.

The main purpose was to make plans for the formation of a Canadian LP group. Other activities included a banquet dinner, presentation of movies and slides of past LPA National Conventions and Dist. meetings.



(1-r) Front Row: William Eustace, Darin Lee(Dist.11), Judy Lee(Dist.11)  
Second Row: Terri Schmaltz, Bob Hubof(Dist.11)  
Linda Berg, Lyle Closson  
Third Row: Shirley Wotherspoon, Joan Shore, Nancy Evans, Rose and Roy Closson



# DISTRICT 11

In early October this group gathered at the Sherwood Inn in Tacoma for their annual Fall District meeting. The group included:



Row one (l-r) Jim Undi, Chuck Gingrich, Kayla Kuhlman, Kathy Warmoth, Billy Russell, Nancy Benjamin, Karel Reckendorf, Peter Reckendorf, Jimmy Evans, and Curtis Russell.  
 Row two (l-r) Wayne Shaw, Kathie Hargas, Mardi Van Loo, Mary Barta, Barbara Corbin, Gloria Van Loo, Judy Oderman, Harold Erdman, Henry Street, Gladys Simmons, Fern Vining, and Hank Kuhlman.  
 Row three (l-r) Richard McLeod, Art Gehrman, Ralph Vining, Linda Berg, Ginny Johnson, Frieda Groeneveld, Barbara Russell, Genevieve Shaw, Martha Alexander, Joe Alexander, and Clark Belangy.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY DISTRICT 11



Front row (left to right): Alisa DeSart, Julie DeSart, Sandy Howard, Karel Reckendorf, Paula Howard, Christine Davis, Robert Davis, Peter Reckendorf, David Bradford, B. J. Bradford, and Randy Bradford, Wayne Shaw, and Louis Scharrer. (standing)  
 Second row (left to right): Henry Street, Mrs. Alice DeSart, Allen DeSart, Adam DeSart, Lucille Benjer, Ferne Vining, Jack Spraker, Barbara Corbin, Gladys Simmons, Cathy Warmoth, Kayla Kuhlman, Mary Barta, Frieda Valuckas, and Peter Valuckas.  
 Third row (left to right): Mike Warmoth, Eddie Boyer, Mardi Van Loo, Ralph Vining, Vonalee Bartels, Richard McLeod, Hank Kuhlman, Martha Alexander, Joe Alexander, Jennie Shaw, Darin Alexander and Dan Hamilton.  
 Fourth row (left to right): Frank Reckendorf, Wally Howard, Elaine Howard, Arlene Bradford, Don Bradford, Elisa Reckendorf, Louise McLeod, Clark Belangy, Janice Davis, Dalla Alexander, Mary Kuhlman, Owen Warmoth, Bev Warmoth, and Chuck Gingrich.

\* \* \* \* \*



# Little People Learn They're Not Alone

"I just can't tell you how wonderful it was to take the girl in my arms and float away with her on the dance floor.

"There I was, dancing and enjoying myself with someone my own size for the first time in my life.

"I knew at once what a terrible mistake I had made for so many years — the mistake of avoiding people who are like me."

Richard LaRussa so described his first social contact with members of Little People of America, an organization of dwarfed people.

## Skilled Craftsmen

LaRussa, a San Francisco plumber, stands 4 feet 5 inches tall. Plumber? Yes, a full-fledged, card-carrying and working member of the Plumbers Union.

But this is not an unusual attainment for a member of the local chapter of Little People of America.

A. F. "Al" Stickney of San Bruno, 4-2, is a United Airlines aircraft mechanic.

Ronald Hackl of San Lorenzo, 4-1, is a cabinet maker.

Robert Burgan of Larkspur, 4-5, is a landscaper for the State Division of Highways.

Kathy McGuire of San Francisco, 4-5, is a commercial artist employed by the Del Monte Corporation.

Robert East of Hayward, 4-6, is a machinist.

And there are accountants, clerks, factory technicians, secretaries, students, draftsmen, engineers — almost every occupation you can think of — among the chapter's other 125 members.

## President

Catherine Nuchols of San Lorenzo, 4-2, is the current chapter president. She estimates about 200 other dwarfed adults and young adults in the Bay Area who hesitate to join because of shyness. Some don't want to come out into the world at all.

Stickney's wife, Harriet, 4-2, is a former elementary school teacher who holds a master's degree in education from the University of Wisconsin.



CATHERINE NUCHOLS  
Leads Little People

Mrs. Stickney plays an important role in the parents auxiliary of the Little People of America. Auxiliary members, who are known to pediatricians throughout the area, assist parents to whom dwarfed children are born, always on the recommendation of the physicians.

"We send an average-size person to visit the parents and tell them their child can lead a normal and happy life," says Mrs. Stickney. "It wouldn't do for one of us to do this at the beginning. The shock of having a dwarfed child is shock enough without have a dwarf walk in on you."

## Chapter Meetings

Parents of dwarfed children eventually come to chapter meetings held on the first Friday of every month in the Americana Room of the American Savings and Loan Building, 1601 East 14th St., San Leandro.

There they receive advice they couldn't get anywhere else on the rearing of a dwarfed child.

The Little People don't like to be called midgets ("that's

a circus term; we are dwarfs, and there are about 70 different types of dwarfism").

Nor do they like to be asked if they are really real or how they are discriminated against by people in the "big world."

## Problems

They make it clear they know they have problems living in a world designed by and for taller people. They don't regard such things as the height of telephones in most pay booths as an act of discrimination against them by the telephone company.

"We learn to live with these things," says Mrs. Stickney. "A passer-by will always help."

Mrs. Stickney says there seems to be more people with "interior hangups" in the big world than there are in the Little People's world.

She says she simply can't understand this, especially when she observes such hangups in beautiful, average-sized women who seem to have everything going for them.

Kathy McGuire, who edits the chapter's monthly newsletter, has no hangups. In her Christmas letter to chapter members, published in the



ROBERT BURGAN AND HARRIET STICKNEY PONDER THE QUESTIONS  
Little People share problems of life as well as happiness

current newsletter, she wrote:

"To you all I wish a very Happy Holiday Season, and a peaceful New Year in '72.

And may we all grow as each year begins."



Mr. and Mrs. Peter Norman  
October 14, 1972

On October 14, 1972, Miss Kathleen McGuire, of District 12, to Mr. Peter Norman, of District 12 in Portola Valley, California. They are making their home in San Francisco, where Kathy is employed by Del Monte Corporation and Peter works for Pacific Telephone Company.

On August 26, 1972, Miss Linda Berg, of Claresholm (Alberta), Canada, to Mr. Robert Burgan, of District 12, in Claresholm. They are residing in Larkspur, California. Bob is with the California Highway Department.

On Oct 22, 1972, Miss Joan Cecil, of District 12, to Mr. Bill Hare, formerly of District 4, in Burlingame, California, where they now reside. Joan is a college student, and Bill works for a bank.



## Little People, Inc.

## Stumps Stump San Diego in Softball

By Lino DeLena

Another first was scored by S.Q. when the "Little People" softball team came in and split a doubleheader against the D team from the Sports Spectacular series. Calling themselves "Stumps" and belonging to the Little People, Inc. (a nationwide organization), these midgets are one of only two teams known to exist in the nation. Playing with a fantastic sense of humor that

temporary lead. Then Diego chalked up three when Hackler drove in Shorty and Carroll, with Bobby Mendes bringing in Hackler.

In the last inning, Jack Carlino got a base hit, then stole second and third. A base hit by Bob Burgan drove in the tying run for the Stumps, but a double play stopped any further runs. Diego scored the winning run when Shorty got on base and



STUMPS AND San Quentin softball teams pause before start of game.

quickly won the crowd, their hilarious antics not only confounded the opposition, but had the spectators roaring with laughter.

## First Game

The Stumps took an early lead, when inmate pitcher Hackler had trouble adjusting to the unusual strike zone. Cheered on by the spectators, they turned three walks into runs, aided with a base hit by Bruce Johnson, then held the D team to two runs.

In the second inning, Steve Lee got on base, then stole second and third bases. A balk on the pitcher scored another run for the Stumps. Then "Papa" Carlino held the D team down by striking out Shorty Eads and Fred Carroll, keeping the lead with a score of 4-2.

In the third inning, two walks, two hits, and seven stolen bases,

Carroll drove him in.

## Second Game

After a brief exercise period in the gym, the Little People came back to win the second game 15-9. Peter Norman and Ron Hackl scored the two runs in the first inning, with Bruce Johnson getting a base hit.

It was in the second inning that Steve Lee was stealing third and faked an injury. Bob Linsley stood by helplessly as Nino Carlino and Anthony Carlino went to his assistance. Players and spectators watched silently as the Little People picked up their injured teammate. With one assisting on each side and never leaving the baseline, they maneuvered him to within 10 yards of home plate where he zoomed across for a run. After everyone realized what had happened, belly-holding laughter and cheers poured forth from the fans.

Three more runs were scored before the side was retired, one of them when Nino asked the pitcher for the ball. Not having called a timeout, but the pitcher tossed the ball to Nino and watched it roll away as Nino let it by. Again, throwing the fans into a fit of laughter. Diego scored a single run to make it 6-1.

In the third, with bases loaded Andre Boursse got a base hit for the Stumps. The runner on third base ran to first, the one on first scrambled to third, Andre zoomed to second, and the runner on second scored a run. The infield players were left astounded and the laughter which ensued from the fans is undescrivable. Four more runs were scored that inning, for an 11-1 tally.

Each team scored two runs in the fifth, and in the sixth the Stumps scored another run. Diego scored four, Parson Winn, Raunch Brewer, Brutus Williams, and Shorty.

In the last inning, the Little People chalked up one more and held the D team to two runs for a 15-9 victory.

Special thanks to J. J. Jones and the Diego team for the outstanding sportsmanship shown in both games, especially in the second one. Also, to the Stumps' manager Bob East, umpire Sammy Cruz and all who were responsible for making the event possible.



LITTLE PEOPLE of America will play the Fairfield Exchange Club in a benefit softball exhibition contest Sunday,

Sept. 7, at 1 p.m. All the action is slated at Lee Bell Park, with proceeds to benefit the Little People of America, Exchange

Club-sponsored projects and other local charities.—Special Photo.

## 'Little People' Slate Benefit Softball Game At Lee Bell Park

By GERRY CARROLL  
DR Sports Editor

FAIRFIELD—The Second Annual Little People of America softball game will be played at Lee Bell Park Sunday, Sept. 7, at 1 p.m.

The game, which benefits the Little People of America and other local charities, will pit the Little People against the Fairfield Exchange Club. Proceeds will also benefit projects sponsored by the

Exchange Club.

Last year's game was a success, and this year's contest looks to be another excellent game for the entire family to attend. Tickets are available for \$1 donation for adults and 50 cents donation for children 15 or under.

Tickets will be made available at Straw Hat Pizza, Marty's Clothiers, Bank of America, Zelinko Printing Co., Grand Auto, P.G. & E. or from

any Exchange Club member.

In a special "Grand Slam Offer," each adult ticket will be redeemable at Straw Hat for \$1 off the purchase of a large pizza. In addition, each children's ticket will be good for two free soft drinks at Straw Hat; both offers are good through Sept. 30.

Fairfield's own 6-6 umpire, George Poppe, will be this year's umpire as he was last year for the benefit game, it was reported.



ACTION last year during the Little People of America exhibition softball game featured Fairfield's 6-6 umpire, George Poppe, and a disagreeable Little People

player. The second annual benefit game between the Little People and the Fairfield Exchange Club will be played at Lee Bell Sunday, Sept. 7 at 1 p.m.—Special Photo.

## Movie Midgets Demand Rights

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Another minority is demanding its rights. The "little people"—midgets and dwarfs—want membership and voting privileges in the Screen Actors Guild.

For 32 years, says one of them, Billy Curtis, they've worked in pictures under guild waivers granting union advantages without the requirement of membership.

"The guild was being benevolent to the little people and the pinheads, fat ladies and giants, not realizing it was taking away the inherent right to vote," said Billy.

His proposal that the little people be required to join, pay dues and enjoy full rights carried without dissent.

## DEATH

Miss Lola Cox passed away at her home in San Francisco May 22 at the age of 83. Many LPA members will remember her from past conventions. Her sparkling personality will be missed by all.



Give us a happy ending

# Dwarf's need wins a response



Alamedan Robert Biggs sits in his electric cart. The bar in his right hand steers the front wheel of the three-wheeled battery-powered vehicle. Light blinking in front is a turn signal. Bar in Biggs left hand is the brake. Photo below shows control box placed at fingertip reach by workmen at the Center for Independent Living in Berkeley. (Times-Star Photos by Bill Brand)

By BILL BRAND  
City Editor

Remember those grand old movies? The ones that still play on television now and again, but always late at night.

You know—there's Mickey Rooney and Shirley Temple and maybe Pat O'Brien as a kindly priest. Mickey's a kid with a big problem. He wants to play football maybe, or just get the funds to see his mom in prison.

But he's ill—or he needs new crutches or a rare operation. He goes to local government—a hospital maybe? But the bureaucrats close their hearts and purses.

Now it's Christmas Eve and it's snowing, and Mickey has to hobble home to his barren room. Suddenly, in the distance—out of the snowflakes—a light.

The sound track chips in with the opening bars of Beethoven's Fifth. And suddenly, wow! There's Shirley and Pat—and oh my! Half the town.

Mickey has touched their hearts—and

And—she had a golf cart adapted for her use. She saw the Times-Star article and her heart went out to young Bob Biggs. She knew what being crippled meant.

She also had an electric golf cart. "I don't use it anymore," she said, "I have an electric wheel chair." So she donated it for a token \$100.

There were still problems, just like in the movies. The cart needed new batteries and some more adaptations so Biggs, who is 3'-10" tall could operate it.

That meant money. Enter Pat O'Brien, played in this very true story by Art Michel, director of Alameda's Family Service Agency. Michel and his Agency agreed to handle donations for the repairs.

A second Times-Star story brought the citizens of this community onto center stage. The drive was a success. Alamedans opened their hearts and their

## Ample proof of the city's warmth

they've been busy the whole day...proudly Father Pat hands Mickey the new crutches or the train ticket. Shirley gives him a hug. Exit singing.

You know the story.

It may be old hat to some hardened realists, but it's playing again this week in Alameda. Only this time it's for real.

Instead of Mickey Rooney, there's Robert Biggs, a 20-year-old dwarf. Biggs, of 1546 Webster St., is crippled all right. And, all he wanted was an electric golf cart so he could get around town. He had this idea about putting canisters out in stores around the West End, like the March of Dimes.

The merchants said yes, but the city said 'no'. Just like in the movie.

So he came to the Times-Star. We did a story. That's where Kathy Mortensen, who lives on Lincoln Avenue came in. Call her Shirley Temple, if you will. Only, here's a twist, Hollywood forgot. Kathy, 28, is confined to a wheel chair.

pockets. More than \$500 was collected in short order.

The Center for Independent Living, an organization based in Berkeley which specializes in helping crippled people adapt to a walking world, adapted the golf cart and this week, Robert Biggs, 20, got his wheels.

But hold on—there's more.

The bureaucrats helped too. In the first-place, Mayor Chuck Corica held discussions at City Hall and the city decided Bob could put out those canisters after all. But, by then, Alamedans had already pitched in and the money was in hand.

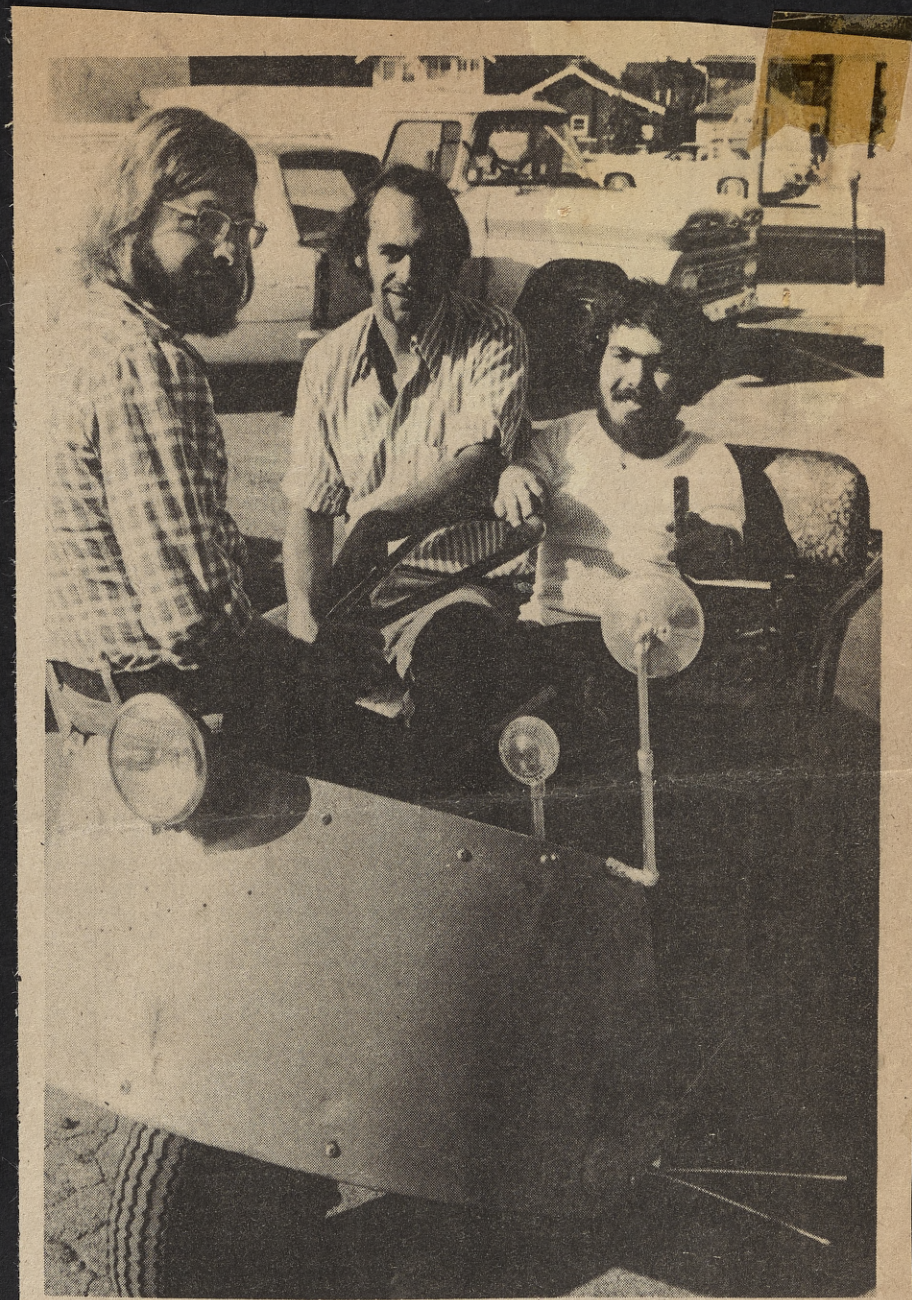
The State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation got in the act too.

The state agreed to pick up the tab for the difference between the \$500 Alamedans raised and the actual cost of repairs—about \$500.

The Robert Biggs story. With a cast of hundreds. Playing now in Alameda. - Exit singing. Arms linked.

## A young man and his wheels

Robert Biggs, of Alameda sits in his refurbished electric golf cart along with Earl Jacobson and John Roletti of Berkeley's Center for Independent Living. The center, started by wheel chair victim Ed Roberts, specializes in repairing wheel chairs and helping crippled people adapt to the everyday world. Roberts, incidently, has just been appointed head of the State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation by Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. (Staff photo)





# Little lady making big dream come true

By GLENNDA CHUI

SAN LEANDRO — Tammy Detro lives in a big world.

At 16, she looks up at the world from a height of only 30 inches.

But you can bet that the only thing small about Tammy is her size. Her ambitions are as big and flashy as the world of show business, and unlike many aspiring actresses, she's making her dreams come true.

The San Leandro High sophomore has a co-starring role in an upcoming children's television show. And years ago she played a monster on a television movie.

Tammy plans a career in acting and right now she's eyeing a part on "The Streets of San Francisco." But she says acting wasn't always her ambition.

"I didn't really have a desire to do it — I kinda grew up with it," she says.

It all started when she met her godfather, Felix Silla, after joining Little People of America at the age of 5. Silla is the actor who played Cousin It in "The Addams Family."

In 1971, Silla suggested that Tammy try for the monster role in "Don't be Afraid of the Dark," a television movie. She was accepted for the part after an interview with the producer.

She played "a cross between a mole and a bear," and the role was an introduction to some of the less glamorous aspects of show biz.

"My part entailed dragging heavy objects upstairs under hot lights," Tammy recalls. "To make things worse, my costume was a stuffy fur suit. I also had to wear a whole-head latex mask."

But the two days of filming at Burbank Studios in Los Angeles also meant meeting new friends, including the cast of "The Waltons" and Jim Hutton of "Ellery Queen."

Work on the children's show started in July, and shooting should start soon, Tammy says. Once filming begins, she'll work an eight-hour day once a week, spending three of the hours

studying with an on-the-set teacher and another hour resting.

"Acting is not easy work," she says. "You earn every buck you make."

"I know show business isn't all it's cracked up to be. There are bad times as well as good."

"But I'd rather be in show business than do something else that's a bore."

When she's not working, Tammy attends classes at San Leandro High. She has no problems getting around school, she says. Teachers let her out of class five minutes early, and friends help her climb staircases and get into chairs.

She's taking drivers training with the rest of her class, and hopes to drive a modified Datsun when she finishes the course.

As for her height, Tammy says it doesn't bother her, but it sometimes bothers other people.

"Because of my height, it takes most strangers a while to get used to me, but I don't mind that," she says. "What irks me is when they treat me special."

Through organizations like the Little People of America, more people are becoming used to people her size, she says. She is now teen chairman of Little People for a district that stretches from Hawaii to Nevada.

The organization holds meetings, outings and benefits for those who have trouble adjusting to their handicaps.

"There are different types of dwarfism, and some people have a harder time of it than others," Tammy says. "Little People has foundations set up for people with back problems, which are common, and to study the different types of dwarfism."

Tammy gives Little People and her mother credit for helping her adjust to her size.

"My mother didn't mollycoddle me," she says. "She never put anything down to my size, so I had to adjust. That's the best way."

"I live in a big world. You just can't live in a small world."



TAMMY DETRO, 16, HAS BIG AMBITIONS AS AN ACTRESS



Just recently received was this photo of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burgan, who were wed on August 26, 1972.

My daughter, Linda Marie, will be married to Mr. Robert Ray Burgan, on Saturday the twenty-sixth of August, nineteen hundred and seventy-two at three o'clock. Their vows will be spoken at Peace Lutheran Church, Claresholm, Alberta.

I invite you to worship with us, witness their vows and be my guest at the reception following at five o'clock in the North Peace Hall.

If you are unable to attend, I ask your presence in thought and prayer.

Mrs. Dorothy Berg



NOW FOR THOSE POCKET BIOGRAPHIES OF YOUR DISTRICT OFFICERS

AL STICKNEY AS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL 19 BAY AREA MEMBERS, AL HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN LPA. SINCE 1961. HE SERVED IN VARIOUS OFFICES, INCLUDING PRESIDENT OF THE BAY AREA CHAPTER. HE HAS BEEN ON DISTRICT COMMITTEES. FOR 14 YEARS HE HAS LIVED IN SAN BRUNO. HE IS A FEDERALLY LICENSED MECHANIC FOR UNITED AIRLINES AT THEIR SERVICE CENTER AT THE SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. HE'S MARRIED( YOU'LL MEET HER LATER). THEY'RE ONLY 15 MINUTES FROM THE AIRPORT, SO IF YOU ARE EVER IN SAN FRANCISCO PHONE THEM.

SHIRLEY BERG OREGON'S LOSS WAS CALIFORNIA'S GAIN, WHEN SHIRLEY MOVED FROM BIRKENFIELD, OREGON TO FULLERTON, CALIF. 1½ YRS AGO. WHILE IN OREGON, PART OF LPA DISTRICT 11, SHIRLEY SERVED AS DISTRICT SECRETARY AND THEN DISTRICT CHAIRMAN. IN DISTRICT 12, SHE CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE AS A MEMBER, AND IN ADDITION TO HER NEW OFFICE, SHE CONTINUES TO BE SECRETARY OF THE LOS ANGELES GROUP. SHE IS EMPLOYED FULL TIME AS A SECREATRY WITH THE MISSIONARY AVIATION FELLOWSHIP IN FULLERTON.

JACKIE EAST( MRS. BOB) THIS TIME TEXAS' LOSS WAS CALIFORNIA'S GAIN, WHEN THE FORMER JACKIE HESTER BECAME THE WIFE OF BOB EAST OF OAKLNAD, CALIF. OM MAY 13, 1967. SHE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN LPA SINCE HER FIRST LPA MEETING AT THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. LEE KITCHENS IN JUNE 1963. THE FOLLOWING MONTH SHE ATTENDED HER FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION AND HASN'T MISSED ONE SINCE. IN TEXAS( PART OF DISTRICT 8) JACKIE WAS VERY ACTIVE, SERVING AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE DAL-WORTH CHAPTER. SINCE MOVING TO CALIF., SHE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN THE BAY AREA CHAPTER. HER HUSBAND BOB, IS PRESIDENT OF THE CHPATER, AND JACKIE SERVES AS THE GROUP,AS CORRESPONDING SECRETARY. IN ADDITION TO BEING ACTIVE IN LPA, HER CHURCH, AND AS A HOUSEWIFE, SHE IS EMPLOYED AS A SECRETARY FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND. SHE IS A GRADUATE OF THE BISH MATHES INSTITUTE IN LONGVIEW, TEXAS.

HARRIET STICKNEY( MRS. AL) WOULD YOU BELIEVE, ANOTHER IMPORT? AL MARRIED HARRIET, JULY 1, 1967, IN MILWAUKEE, WIS. AND BROUGHT HER TO CALIF. UPON HIS ELECTION, AL APPOINTED HARRIET AS HIS GAL FRIDAY, WHICH INCLUDES AMONG OTHER THINGS, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, AND NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CO-ORDINATOR. SHE IS ALSO VICE-PRESIDNET OF THE BAY AREA CHAPTER AND PARENT AUXILIARY COMM. CHR. FOR THAT GROUP. IN DISTRICT 6( WIS. AND ILL.) HARRIET WAS SECRETARY AND LATER DIRECTOR. A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WIS., HARRIET WAS A SCHOOL TEACHER FOR 12 YEARS. AL AND HARRIET ARE ALSO ACTIVE IN THEIR CHURCH, SO EVEN THOUGH SHE'S RETIRED FROM TEACHING, HARRIET KEEPS BUSY.

\*\*\*\*\*

EDITOR: HARRIET H. STICKNEY ( MRS. AL)

JUNE - JULY 1974

As a memorial to his son, THOMAS HENDERSON, who passed away May 6, GENE HENDERSON wrote the following poem:

THOMAS

Thom lives with us in hearts and thoughts as long as we shall live.  
He didn't ask for very much, but had so much to give.  
Oh Lord, he had so much compassion and it was sincere.  
Meanness wasn't part of him, and love was very dear.  
A brother, a son, and a friend to so many, he  
Solace from the years we had him, will live as long as we.....Love Dad

Thom's parents, DOROTHY and GENE HENDERSON, his sister, AILEEN HENDERSON GARMAN, and her family, LEN and HEATHER GARMAN, have asked to have their following letter of gratitude printed in this issue. We were pleased to do so..

June, 1974

Dear Friends, Known and Unknown;

We, the Garman-Henderson family of THOM HENDERSON are almost at a loss for words (and that's a rarity!) to tell you how tenderly touched we all are: How stupified by the preponderance of thoughtful cards, the beautiful notes and letters, and the person-to-person messages of love and goodwill. Hot tears of resentment and grief were washed with tears of gratitude for the many people doing so many things, giving time, money and work, giving of yourselves to make things so much better for us. The memorial, and the "Short Stature" fund are a wonderful tribute to THOM, and hopefully, the birth of a great benefactor to the physical problems of we short statured folks. For all of this, from all of you, it seems so inadequate for us to say: "Thank you, and God Bless you, each and all."

Thom never asked much of life, materially, but he had two priceless things to will to all of us. The memory of his deep and sincere love and compassion for people, and his tortured, crippled body. The latter was Thom's specific wish. If the medical/surgical world learns anything from Thom that will help even one person in some way, some day, then Thom, and we who love him, will be thankful that his long suffering, and early departure was a contribution to humanity, not just a shameful waste.

Fraternally and Gratefully,

The Thom Henderson Family



FIRST TIME IN NEWARK

# LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA



vs. NEWARK NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE



## In A Softball Game



SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1975 7:30 PM

NEWARK HIGH SCHOOL  
FOOTBALL FIELD



ALL TICKETS \$1.00 DONATION PROCEEDS TO HELP THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND NEWARK NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE



# Second Annual Softball Game



## LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

VS.

## FAIRFIELD EXCHANGE CLUB



### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1975 - 1:00 p.m.



## LEE BELL PARK



#### GRAND SLAM OFFER

EACH ADULT TICKET IS REDEEMABLE AT STRAW HAT PIZZA FOR \$1.00 OFF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF A LARGE PIZZA. EACH CHILDS TICKET WILL BE GOOD FOR 2 FREE SOFT DRINKS AT STRAW HAT PIZZA.

Offer good until September 30, 1975.



ADULTS : \$1.00 Donation

CHILDREN: \$.50 Donation  
(15 or under)

PROCEEDS TO HELP THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND LOCAL CHARITIES OR PROJECTS SPONSORED BY THE FAIRFIELD EXCHANGE CLUB.